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THE MARTLET

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Alarms sound for UVic fish

Allegations of improper conduct leave the aquatic research facility in deep water

Andrew Smith

On July 9, The Tyee, an online magazine covering news in B.C. produced its first article in a three-part series raising alarms and allegations of improper conduct in the UVic Aquatic Research department.

The article alleged that Microtek Research and Development Ltd., a company that leases aquatic facilities through UVic, had violated standard protocol of the Capital Regional District (CRD), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Canadain Council on Animal Care (CCAC).

Microtek uses UVic facilities to test vaccines and health products which are then distributed by Bayer, a German pharmaceutical company. The products are then distributed throughout Canada, the U.S., Chile and Norway.

The series, written by reporter Andrew MacLeod, further stated that UVic had refused to enforce its strict code of ethics and standard operating procedures. MacLeod claimed that in the spring of 2008, "large volumes of untreated water laced with fish diseases were traveling from a university laboratory used by a private company through the city's sewerage system and into the ocean."

MacLeod said through unnamed employees and emails that the response was slow, with UVic officials taking as many as three months to respond to the incident. He also stated that UVic officials were told to relax regulation enforcement on Microtek due to the financial issues that would arise if the company were to be thoroughly investigated.

Rachel Scarth, Director of Research and Services at UVic, denied the allegations Macleod made against the research laboratories. She claims that the response time to incidents of water contamination was appropriate and investigations were prompt.

ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

Microtek, who leases UVic's aquatic facilities, was accused of violating protocol by transporting disease-contaminated fish water to the ocean.

Scarth further stated that on May 12, an incident of water contamination occurred in the labs and the system was shut down immediately. Maintenance and facilities engineers were called to the scene to determine a solution for the problem, and protocol was thoroughly followed.

MacLeod stated in the article that employees had breached codes of conduct through re-using fish for multiple tests, not wearing gloves and in some cases decapitating the fish after testing. UVic representatives claim they were not contacted in time to reply to MacLeod's accusations, stating that the the accuracy of these statements was not verified for the Tyee article.

Scarth later replied that the allegations were inaccurate, and that UVic follows strict standard operating procedures. She claimed the reported incidents could not have occurred because the cost for the UVic research facilities would be "very, very high."

See *Fishy business*, p. 2

Budget cuts continue to slice into UVic's hopes

Scott Daly

The impact of UVic's $4.2 million budget deficit became clearer as university administrators submitted their report on the estimated effects to the Board of Governors at their June meeting. UVic plans to offset its deficit this year by spending $4.2 million less than what it receives in 2009/10.

The majority of reductions are expected to come from eliminating salaried positions, as over 80 per cent of the university's operating budget goes towards employee pay and benefits. Between 22 and 30 faculty positions are expected to be lost along with 13 to 20 staff positions. This loss is expected to result in approximately 125 fewer course offerings, as well as "decreased program quality" due to larger class sizes and fewer resources. The effect on current faculty and staff is expected to be minimal, as personnel reductions will be made as much as possible through eliminating vacant positions. Funding for research and supervisory capacity for graduate students is likely to be cut, while the remainder is expected to come through decreased operating spending, equipment replacement and enrolment management funding used to hire TAs and sessional instructors.

Gayle Gorrills, Vice-President Finance and Operations, stresses that the report presented to the board is only a set of proposals and that details about the actual results of the cuts will not be known with certainty until later this year.

"The proposals are intended to provide an indication of how the reductions will occur, but the actual reductions aren't required un-

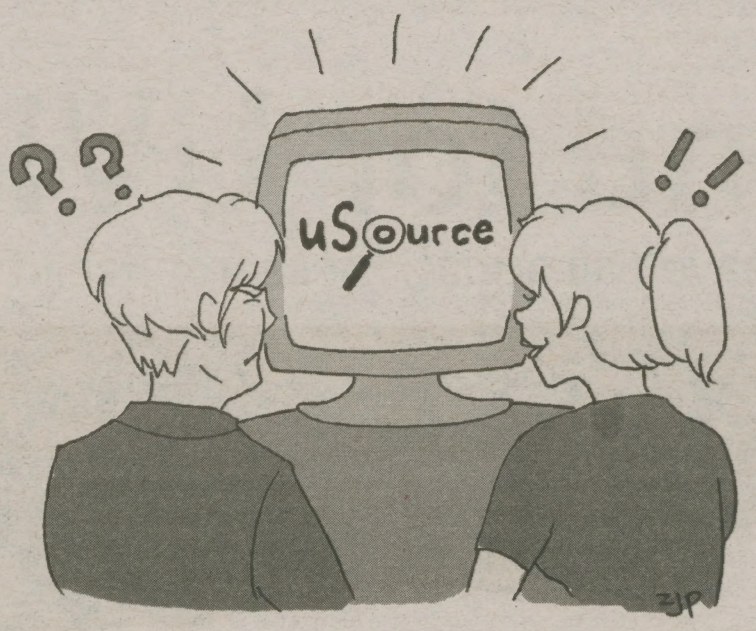
See *Government reduction*, p.2

ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

Cuts for UVic will mean fewer opportunities for students too, including larger classes and reductions in aid.

USource not perfect for all yet

Scott Daly



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

UVic's new online information system, most recognizable as the uSource portal, continues to attract both praise and disdain from users only months after its launch.

While university portals for faculty, staff and alumni have been operating since 2006, the new student system was not launched until March of this year.

The system, developed by a team called Project Nova, is designed to provide one-stop access to a wide range of university information and services that were previously "stand alone" systems.

Despite some early glitches with registration dates, the system was able to handle almost 20,000 student registrations for the winter term, causing many to declare uSource a success. Still, some students continue to express their dissatisfaction with uSource, particularly with regard to the new registration system.

Andrew Allen, a fourth-year physical education student and the creator of the Facebook group '10,000 strong against UVic's uSource' believes the main problems with uSource are that it has simply too much information and no timetable assistant software to help create a conflict-free schedule.

"The old registration system was better in my view because it did what it was supposed to and had an interface that was simple," said Allen. "Making students use uSource before all the kinks [were] worked out and features fully operational made a lot of students feel like guinea pigs."

Many students faced trouble registering for certain classes when uSource did not recognize prerequisites taken during summer semesters, or when it told students they were not in the necessary programs. Other uSource users were frustrated by only being allowed to search for classes one semester at a time.

While many echo Allen's sentiment, others who had no experience with the old registration system described uSource as a valuable and mostly uncomplicated tool.

Katherine Walkiewicz, a first-year art history student, thought the system actually took a lot of the stress out of registering.

"I found the registration system really straightforward," she said. "I've only delved as far as the registration section though, so who knows what other surprises might be hidden away on there."

Project Nova has worked for almost four years towards its goal of creating a state-of-the-art integrated information infrastructure to serve the university community.

The creation and implementation of the new system, at a cost of approximately $20 million, was undertaken by UVic because the old system was over 30 years old, lacked the capacity to adapt and was becoming increasingly expensive to maintain. Project Nova continues to review the feedback it has been getting to try to refine uSource.

Mark Roman, the chief information officer of Computing and Systems Services, points out that while the new system is not perfect, the old system had 30 years to work out the kinks, while uSource has only had a few months.

"We read the comments on Facebook and LiveJournal and a lot of it is useful feedback, but some of it is actually quite hurtful," said Roman. "It ain't perfect, but nothing in the world of software is ever perfect."

Continued from p. 1

ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

The Tyee claimed UVic re-used and decapitated lab fish after testing.

Fishy business threat to lab

"If found in violation of ethical research, the CCAC would pull our accreditation," said Scarth. The result would be an immediate closure of the facilities.

The CCAC and other institutions inspect the labs annually. Due to the publicity caused by the Tyee articles, a makeshift inspection occurred in mid-July to ensure that UVic had followed the water treatment policies and enforced its contract regulations with Microtek.

The Tyee reported an incident where an estimated 1,000 fish died in a "mass kill" when fish were flushed from Microtek tanks into the pumps. Scarth stated that accidents such as the one in 2006 do occur, and standard protocol is followed for preventative measures.

Since the incident last spring, the system was inspected by facilities engineers and additional alarm systems are now in place with routine inspections.

Patty Pitts, Media Relations manager of UVic Communications Services said the Tyee article wasn't fair to UVic.

"The reporter [used] material gleaned from unnamed sources to speculate, postulate and infer," Pitts said. "UVic would have appreciated the opportunity to respond to these specific allegations and accusations."

Despite UVic's desire for response, the Tyee's allegations have caused a stir in the community and investigations are currently being carried out.

The facility is due for its next inspection in Dec. As it stands, the CCAC and CRD have not revoked any permits, nor have they discredited the university's aquatics facility.

UVic communications is set to issue a rebuttal when the results of the inspection are finalized.

Continued from p. 1

Government reduction still stymies universities

til the beginning of the next fiscal year, April 1, 2009," Gorrills said. The shortfall arose after the provincial government announced a province-wide two per cent reduction in university operating grants less than three weeks before the start of the April 1 fiscal year.

The board approved the original budget for 2008/09 in March, recognizing the months of planning that had already taken place. However, they insisted that a report be presented in June, outlining how the reductions would likely be achieved in the 2009/10 fiscal year.

Criticism continues to increase over the government's decision. NDP advanced education critic Rob Fleming said that the cuts do not make any sense, especially since the province posted a $2.9 billion surplus last year.

"Why did the B.C. Liberals choose to cause pain and chaos at our colleges and universities when a healthy surplus existed — it shows an astounding lack of logic," Fleming said in a press release.

Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education, defended the reduction, saying that B.C. universities are still getting an increase in funding over last year and that the money is getting redirected into training in other fields like the trades and nursing.

"All public post-secondary institutions in B.C. are receiving increases to their budgets this year, including the University of Victoria with a budget increase of $6.1 million," said Coell. "We're targeting some of that increased funding to areas where growth is vitally needed."

UVic will keep formulating a budget plan in the months to come.

Krista Nugent, esthetician and waxing specialist formerly of ECO CHIC Salon and Spa is now in business at IASO Bodyworks. She can be reached at 661.1562 or by email at kristaiasobodyworks@gmail.com

IASO

Letters challenge university autonomy

Discussions on budget heat up after government tells B.C. universities how to spend their funds

Tim Lindsay

The commanding tone and content of the B.C. government's first ever 'letters of expectation' to public post-secondary institutions has ignited a backlash from university stakeholders, including the organization representing B.C. professors.

"The government letters of expectation infringe upon the legal and traditional autonomy of public universities in B.C. [and] are a wholly inappropriate replacement for the customary budget letters," wrote Chris Petter, president of the 4300-member Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC (CUFA-BC), in a June 18 letter to post-secondary student associations across the province.

CUFA-BC says the new letters of expectation go far beyond the budget letters of previous years, which typically outlined the total funding for each university, total student enrollment targets and government objectives likely to involve collaboration with universities. The new letters prescribe how money should be spent and, despite a clause saying the agreement is nonbinding, appear to assert the government's authority over academic and administrative policies and priorities.

In his letter to student associations, Petter said CUFA-BC has urged the Chairs of boards of governors at B.C. post-secondary institutions not to sign the letters. Instead, Petter recommended they respond to the Ministry of Advanced Education with a separate letter acknowledging funding allocations and student enrollment targets, and indicating a willingness to work with the government to achieve public priorities.

"Such a letter would also urge government to enter into meaningful consultations with the public universities and their constituencies on the creation of a new document," wrote Petter.

"We never did sign the first letter," said UVic spokesperson Patty Pitts. "That led to relatively positive discussions between the university and the Ministry."

Those discussions resulted in a new draft that appears to address some concerns UVic raised with the Ministry, said Pitts, adding that the new letter had only just arrived and was being reviewed by the UVic administration.

The original letter of expectations sent to UVic is about 18-pages long, including appendices. It says the government will monitor compliance with the priorities outlined in the letter and "in other Ministry instruction documents that may be issued to the Institution during the term of this letter."

The letter instructs B.C. post-secondary institutions to refocus existing financial resources toward health programs, skilled trades programs, programming for aboriginal students, adult basic education and to areas "in high demand in support of the labour market."

"Government now wishes to redirect its focus from general growth to targeted growth in high priority areas," reads the letter.

In terms of administrative policies, the letter tells universities to use public private partnerships for larger capital projects, to let the provincial government name buildings, to ban junk food from all campus vending machines outside of student residences and to ensure new buildings meet LEED Gold environmental standards.

Natalie Bocking, a student representative on the Simon Fraser University Board of Governors, says the government is using the letters of expectation to "control their image" in light of funding cuts and reduced student enrollment caused by higher tuition.

"It's about controlling what universities can do," said Bocking. "The SFU Board of Governors found the letter pretty offensive and didn't sign it because they felt that it wasn't the government's job to essentially impose their ideology on the university."

With less money to go around, universities have to grapple with where to make the cuts.

"A lot of arts degrees are less of a priority for this government," said Bocking. "But for a dynamic society it's important that all forms of study get appropriate treatment. That should be left to the university to decide."

Advanced Education and Labour Market Development Ministry spokesperson Richard Chambers would not answer specific questions about the letters, emphasizing that "at this stage in the process" questions should be aimed at the universities, not the Ministry.

"The process of a letter of expectation is a public administration tool that formalizes certain levels of accountability," said Chambers. "It doesn't just provide information; it provides performance measures that are understood between government and institutions. They reflect government's priorities and are expectations that agencies can carry out and will be accountable for. And of course they involve a consensual agreement."

An important function of universities is to educate and train people making the transition into the labour market, said Robert Clift, Executive Director of CUFA-BC.

"But the university experience is also about fostering independent thought and analysis. It's hard to foster those characteristics when government views you merely as an extension of its own arm," said Clift.

Universities practice a unique form of "collegial governance" where two major governance bodies work together to set priorities: a senate deals with academic matters and a board of governors manages the money. Both, particularly the senate, include elected representation from across the university community. In contrast to a corporate structure where a board of directors has total control of priorities, the two bodies work together when academic priorities inevitably have financial implications, said Clift.

"Government has the interests of universities at heart, but it has too many conflicting priorities including its own partisan political priorities that would endanger what we do in universities – endanger our independence and autonomy and ability to criticize governments when necessary," said Clift.

Clift says CUFA-BC has put some pressure on the government and is now awaiting a response. He views the government's asserted authority over academic priorities as an incremental step that threatens academic freedom.

"There are many faculty members and graduate students who conduct research that is controversial and sometimes critical of government," said Clift. "That fulfills an important public role."

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

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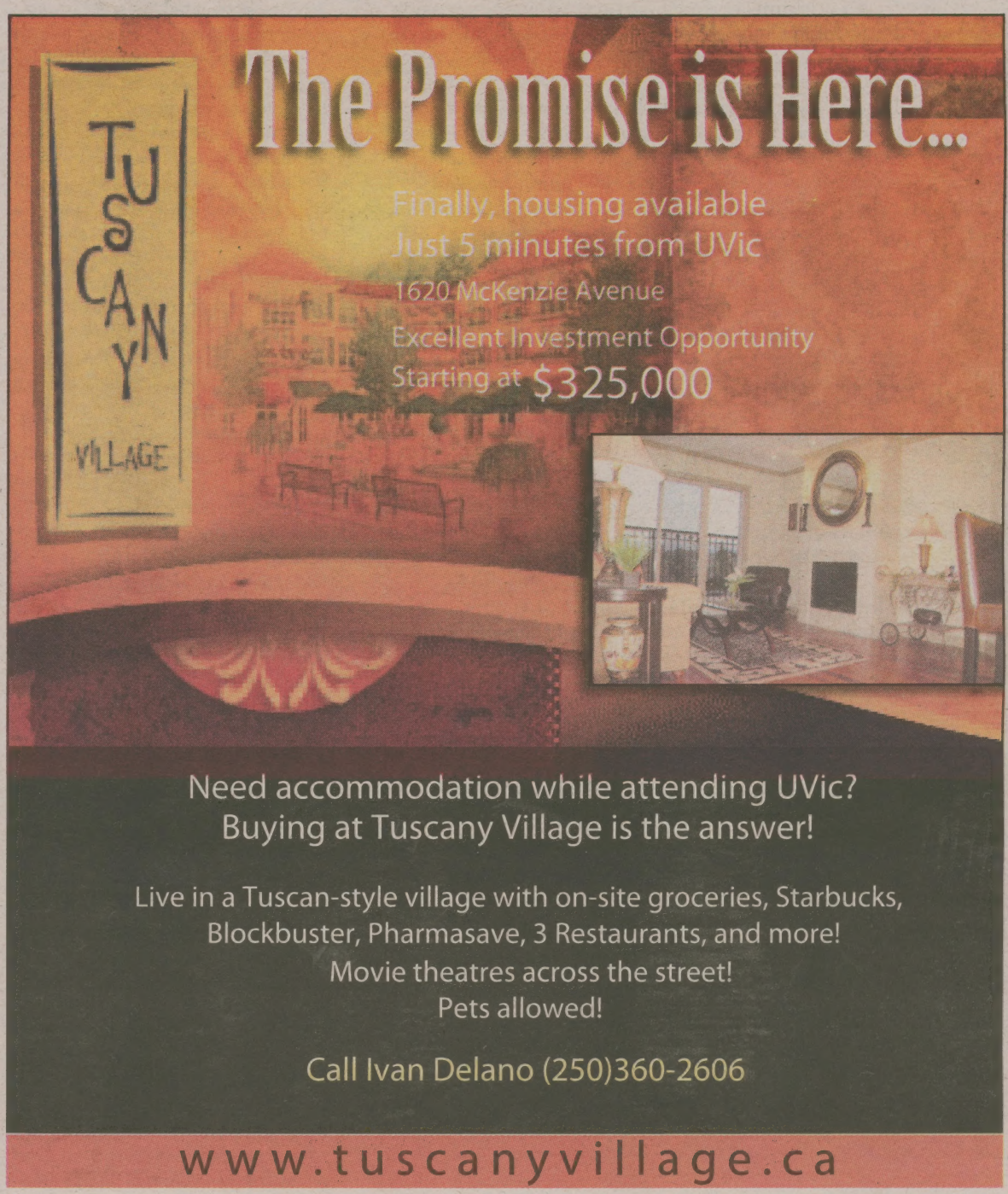
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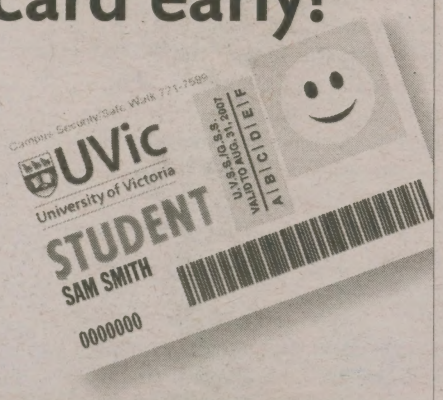

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EDITORIAL

File letter under 'no thank you'

It's one thing to have your parents tell you what to do. You get used to following instructions, answering when you're called, being force-fed financial advice. But when the government knocks on the door with their newly issued 'letters of expectation' instructing B.C. universities on how to spend their ever-fading funds, it makes us want to slam that door shut with one big swinging sign: 'KEEP OUT.'

The problem with the B.C. government guiding the allocation of our university funds isn't so much the stated priorities. Constructing green buildings, phasing out junk food in campus vending machines and increasing skilled-worker programs is defensible on every level. The real problem lies in using these priorities as a political cover to compensate for reneging on the promised post-secondary funding (oh yes, we haven't forgotten those budget cuts), and trying to conform our institutions to governmental standards.

Putting universities on the ropes then having the government swoop in and start dictating is no matter to brush off lightly. It's kind of like making $10 an hour at your ACME job, being promised a $4 an hour raise, only to have your boss backtrack on that promise. Then he goes further to tell you to buy ACME products with your pay cheques because it helps his bottom line — do it, and there just might be another chance at that raise... if you play along.

Sure, these letters doesn't sound entirely offensive. It can be hard to disagree with Father Knows Best. And after all, the government is the one coughing up the (taxpayers') dough, right? But letters expecting us to jump on the government's agenda bandwagon with everything from taking on corporate partners for new expansion projects to allowing the government to name our buildings seems a little heavy handed.

And with the government wanting a say in which university programs merit funding and which ones are best left alone, we could be slammed with a hard new lack of diversity. Where do the arts fit into this new trade-friendly society? How about humanities or even social sciences? The answer: they don't. And while that might be comforting to people on the fast-track to an engineering occupation, for students hoping to pursue a career in painting, music, poli-sci, or sociology, the options could run low.

Meanwhile, the government has already taken its stand on turning colleges into quasi-universities so that McDegrees can be bestowed with maximum velocity and minimum effort. And while this could mean B.C. universities produce graduates trained in the very trades this province needs, at best it would be at the expense of losing our artistic edge — at worst, our identity.

Sure, an education is becoming more expensive then ever before, but keeping university worth by doubling tuition isn't appropriate. Nor is trying to control what people learn once they get there.

Students are hungry for the promised menu of programs, but by adding more cooks the government has spoiled the stew. Especially when these new cooks don't like the taste of independent decision-making pie. They're here to whip us starving campuses into shape, and it might sound indignant, but we'll do what we want, thank you very much.

And we won't apologise for it, either.

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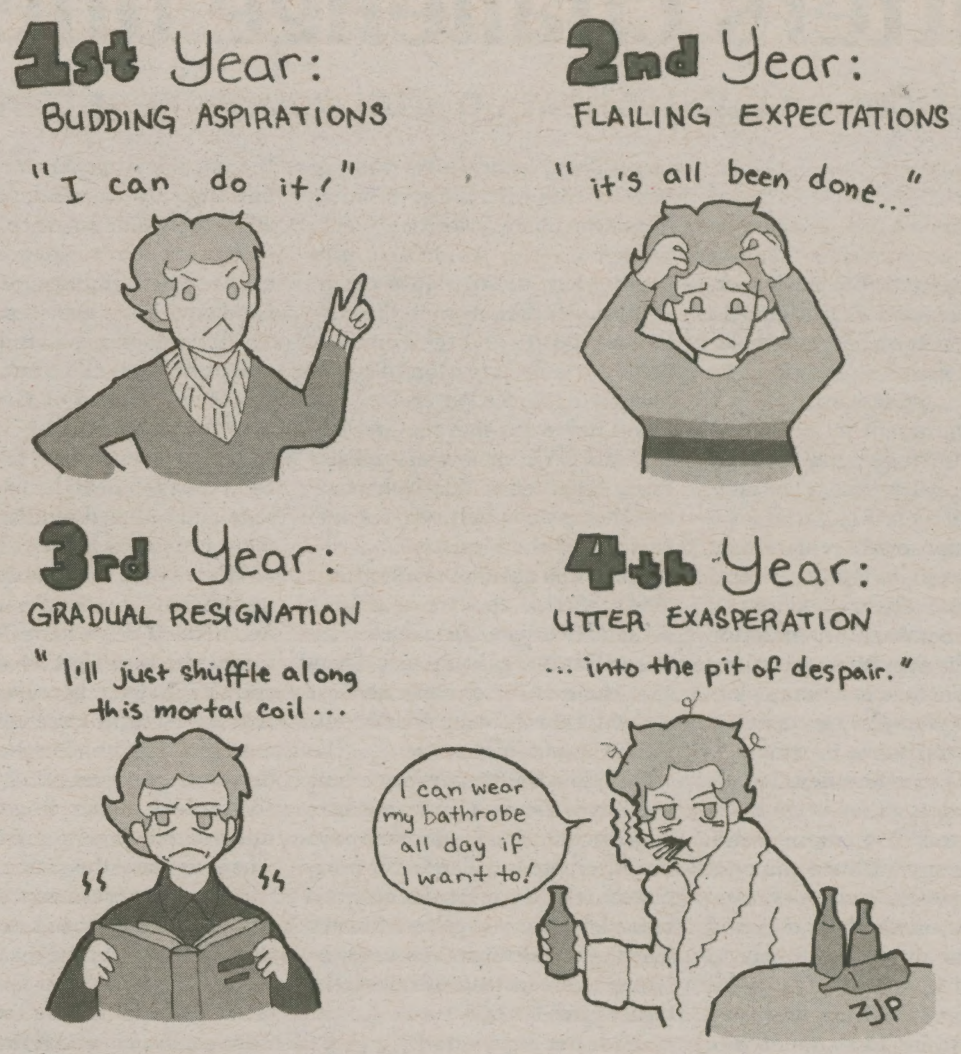
THE ACADEMIC PROCESS



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Carbon tax just the beginning

Aron Strumecki

My dad hates the carbon tax. It's just another tax grab as far as he's concerned. He's not a man 'educated' by university standards, but my father's no dummy. And though we rarely agree on anything, I still pay attention to what he's got to say. Sometimes you really do need to "get practical" (his words). For him the carbon tax is as far from practical as you can get.

I can see him standing in his kitchen, beer in hand, snorting his derision after I was foolish enough to defend the tax. "You don't raise taxes on something like gas!" he said to me. "Everything we use depends on the stuff. You might as well start taxing the air we breathe. It's going to drive up the cost of food and everything else you buy at a store. How can you justify supporting such a stupid tax? We're being screwed over!"

I had to think. The truth is, I don't consider myself to be an environmentalist at all, but I've started to change the way I look at a lot of things lately. Yeah, I thought the environment was important when I was in high school, but it seemed like something you took care of after other stuff. Okay, it seemed like something you took care after everything else.

Oddly enough, the thing that opened my eyes was the price of gas. I remember hearing someone say that we had enough gas to live as we were for at least another 100 years. Things would have to change at some point, but it seemed like we still had more than enough time to get everything straightened out. (If the pace that computers were changing was any indication, we had nothing to worry about.)

But unattended problems always seem to have a way of surprising you when you least expect it. I never thought the price of gas would go over $1 per litre. Now I speculate on when the $2 mark will be passed.

Yet the truly freaky bit comes after you start thinking about where all that gas goes besides our cars. After all, plastic is also made from oil — something we've always taken for granted as cheap and disposable. But what happens when that goes up too?

Think about everything you take home over the course of a year in packaging. My house always seems to have at least one drawer stuffed to the gills with shopping bags I always mean to recycle but never get around to.

Think also about transportation. Even the price of riding a bus, ferry, train or plane will hit the roof. Almost everything we use travels, and usually quite a bit.

The average bite of food reportedly travels over 2,400 kms before landing on your plate, not to mention the clothes on your back, or those techno gadgets we're all addicted to.

Every time the price of gas goes up so does everything else we use. So (like my dad says) how the heck can I justify supporting the carbon tax on top of that?

The answer to me is simple: things need to change. Unfortunately, the best way to get change usually means hitting someone in the pocketbook.

I know this for the same reason I don't speed in my car anymore — it works.

Of course, there are people out there (like my dad) who don't believe global warming really is a problem. It's just too abstract. I used to think that way too until I read about how fast the ice-caps were disappearing like a vast white dodo-bird.

In the end, whatever you think, the one thing you can count on is a steadily-rising price of gas that's probably going to last as long as we're all alive.

So, like I told my father, I'd rather get ready for it than stick my head in the ground. Because the changes have only just begun.

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Prefixed universities cause for concern

Sean Hibbitts

The decision to give university status to several schools in B.C. is one foolish mistake. Coming soon to an institution near you: University of the Fraser Valley, Capilano University, Kwantlen Polytechnical University, Emily Carr University and finally Vancouver Island University. Why would the government do this the same time they slash the budgets of all the universities and colleges (including those newly elevated)? Simple: a quest to download costs.

If you make confused university-colleges into universities, they will be better able to attract international students. The new use-any-prefix universities will be after what is perceived to be the very lucrative money that comes from international students looking for a Canadian education. If international students pay full freight, the government won't have to. Meanwhile, what happens to quality in this equation? What happens to the reputation of all B.C. universities if we have a government-established system of degrees for sale to unsuspecting students? The value slowly washes away.

But using international students as cash cows might not be the only motivation. This move could also be meddling with the traditional universities (universities that engage in teaching, research and service). If the government could appease the public by creating universities that can only afford to teach (and can do it for less than the researching institutions) they would have an excellent excuse to interfere in the autonomy of those traditional universities.

Of course, this could just be poorly thought out pre-election haymaking. Poorly thought out, at least, in the sense that this is destined to harm the B.C. college system and will foster competition rather than cooperation in the most highly-regarded post secondary system in the country. It will also result in all institutions making quantity, not quality, decisions.

That college system is no matter to brush off carelessly. Colleges who carry out their appropriate mandate (without trying to latch onto university-wanna-be status) will now have to struggle with the problem of competion for students. Camosun, North Island, Douglas and Langara, just to name a few, offer unique programs and dedicated teachers, but lack the word 'university' in their title. They will face discrimination for it.

Ironically, many of the occupations the government claims to be supporting through the budget cuts (or 'redistribution of funds') are found at these colleges, yet they will surely be harmed by the newly-differentiated system. This is a slap in the face to the college mandate.

Let's recap who wins and who loses: the college system will see a massive out-flux of students wanting to get into the new, shiny universities.

Many important job skill programs will receive major budget cuts and possible closure. International students will face new pressures trying to decide what is a university and what isn't. Regular students in every B.C. university will have their education devalued as the 'degree factories' go into operation.

It seems, in fact, that there are no winners except, perhaps, a certain government in Victoria that treats its constituents with contempt, thinking they're not smart enough to figure all this out.

We should be protesting this egregious act and protesting it hard. The goal of education should never, ever be quantity over quality.

LETTERS

More than just the pill

I was really disappointed in the May feature article, 'Politics of the Pill.' I understand that it's important for women to know what their options are, and I applaud Naomi Lightman for calling the subject to attention, but why leave UVic's female population with so few options?

The pill and the barrier are not the only methods available. Indeed, by definition, hormonal birth control is entirely abnormal (I agree that long and short-term use of hormonal birth control is questionable), but what about other options? The Island Sexual Health Society is a great resource for women, and they offer counseling as well as almost every possible birth control option available.

On a personal beef, what's up with there being no mention of the IUD (inter-uterine device)? As well as having hormone-free options, the IUD is statistically more effective than any pill anyway. A little more research and a higher word count would have made Lightman's article more enlightening and less seemingly biased. If the whole idea is to let women choose for themselves, it only seems appropriate to provide options.

- Emily Amos, UVic student

uSource article missed mark

I'd been wondering what the Martlet would think about the new registration system at UVic, and damn, I nearly choked on my morning coffee when I saw the front page July headline: 'USource registration a success.'

Are we at the same university? The new system is such a nightmare of confusion it's hard to know where to begin. The registration date fiasco was only the tip of the iceberg. We've got timing issues (what's with the two separate registrations for each semester — and at different times?), we've got wait-list puzzles, we've got tutorial and lab chaos. Then there's the problem of trying to determine which courses are full-year (which you have to register in twice) and which are one semester only. Like the Telus phone book, the print is so teensy-tiny you need a magnifying glass to read it. On top of all that, there's the time factor: the new system is more work, period.

And if you make one small error, such as hitting the 'back' button on your browser instead of something within the website, you're back to the very beginning and have to do it all over again. Talk about inefficient!

This isn't random, irrelevant bitching. Everyone's talking about the new system, and I have yet to find a single student who likes it. You rarely find such universal frustration every day — it's quite spectacular, in fact, and reflects the user-unfriendliness of the system.

Apparently the McPherson library is changing its website soon. Have mercy.

- Jennifer Cador, UVic Student

Complain to the system

The most recent issue of "Hello World" (the newsletter of the Computer Science Course Union) had an editorial by Aurora Harrison which seemed to come to a completely different conclusion in regards to whether or not uSource has been a success.

"Have you started using the term 'uSuck' in your day to day conversation?" Harrison wrote. "Did you pound your desk in anger when you realized you can't register for spring classes yet? Have you found yourself waitlisted on a half-empty class because you are waitlisted in a lab section? Does the interface make you think the HCI [Human Computer Interaction] book was only used to prop open the door?"

It goes on to point out that there is a link at the very bottom of the uSource page to give feedback. My suggestion is that we all make use of it.

- Adam Parkin, UVic Student

'Warmed world' preventable

Upon reading Spencer Anderson's piece, 'Carbon tax a worthy embrace,' I felt it pertinent to point out that those 'heavily carbon taxed' European nations also have a higher standard of living than us.

They don't carry around a $25 billion tailings pond burden ($25 billion would only partially clean them up assuming the technology is magically developed tomorrow). They also don't have three times higher than normal cancer rates like in some Northern Alberta communities. They aren't whining to their federal governments to use scarce research and developing funding on carbon capture and storage, like the oil industry (the most profitable industry on Earth) in Canada is.

Last I checked, the Liberal ad kitty was $3 million and the Conservatives had $10 million to spend on advertising. If the Conservatives brainwash people that gasoline is being taxed, the Liberals might as well just tax it in their plan.

If the boomers leave the next two generations a warmed world that could have been prevented in the absence of neo-conservative propaganda, this generation Y-er will do everything to stop Canada's poaching of third-world nurses so that the overrepresented-Conservative boomers are left alone in hospital hallways in the decades to come.

- Phillip Huggan, Community member

Apology not enough

I read the July article 'Public discussion essential after Aboriginal apology' with interested puzzlement. Aboriginal people do not have to 'rectify' their image; it is up to the rest of Canada to stop treating First Nations people as second-class citizens. It is up to the rest of Canada to educate themselves on the history of Aboriginal people vis-a-vis racist and colonialist practices imposed upon them. It is up to the Canadian people to realize that, while perhaps not being complicit in colonialization per se, the fact that some people have been born into Euro-Canadian families gives them an automatic power and priviledge that lends itself to perpetuating oppressive attitudes.

To rectify an action or circumstance implies that one has done something wrong, and Aboriginal people have done nothing wrong. First Nations have survived many assimilationist tactics in the face of racism and similar onslaught. It is up to the rest of Canada to rectify their image. Further, First Nations do not 'self victimize' — if this were true, we would not be seeing the tremendous resurgence of Native society that we see today — they would have given up. Survival in the face of great hardship and ethnocentric Euro-Canadian colonialism is the antithesis of victimization.

You are right in pointing out that "it is a long process of healing," but a simple apology does not wipe out centuries of hurt and genocide. First there must be an apology of words, then we must see if the following actions live up to these words.

- Ken MacQuarrie, UVic student

Record checks not merited

After reading 'Residence record checks pose ethical issue' in the July issue, I would assume that the reason why allegations don't show up on criminal record checks is because Canada uses a pesky justice system that relies on the presumption of innocence until guilt is proven.

Considering a criminal record can have serious implications on an individual's employability and reputation, it stands to reason that the record should not contain allegations that have never been proven in a court of law.

It is understandable that the residences wish to take steps to prevent sexual assaults and other serious crimes from happening. Ultimately, the best way to accomplish this is likely through educating the residents on measures that will reduce the risk of victimization, increasing the presence of RAs and Campus Security in residence buildings and encouraging victims of sexual assaults to prosecute the perpetrators.

- Aaron Barlow, UVic Alumni

Condolences needed for crime

I would like to express my condolences for the 20-year-old man who was shot and killed on View Street on July 19.

Nightclubs and pubs are for good times. You drink, you dance, you go home. That's the way it should be. Since when are guns acceptable in 'mainstream' society?

- M. Catharina, Community member

Happy? Sad? Enraged?
Tell us: letters@martlet.ca.
The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

Markets offer island treasures

Trisha Gieni

To market, to market, to buy a... designer dress, or a jar of organic jelly?

In Victoria, markets are true to the nature of the city — they feature the traditional aspects of local artisans, but add an originality that's entirely unique to the capital.

World travelers know the majority of cheap souvenirs and dime-a-dozen fashions come from overcrowded stalls manned by tired locals selling the same goods as the person six stalls away. They're overflowing with product and colour, and are surrounded by tourists pretending to know how to talk the vendor down from $3 to $2. While these markets are fantastic ways to spend your pesos or baht, those 'touring' Victoria will have to shell out a bit more to shop at these stands.

But Victoria markets offer more than the traditional fare, and even locals are keen who take advantage of the offerings. Whether it's a handmade wallet or a button that says "I'd rather be naked," the products coming out of the open-air stands around the city truly represent an eclectic mix that shoppers will be hard-pressed to find elsewhere. So take a tour, scrounge around and get ready to stumble upon some local treasures.

TRISHA GIENI PHOTO

Punchy buttons are only one treat you might uncover on a market hunt.

The Government Street Market

Downtown, the Government Street Public Market is worth more than a quick walk-through on your way to Johnson for clothing. It features brightly-coloured stone jewelry, west coasty clothing lines, puppets and countless items in between. You can even find one stand where two sisters sell cheeky buttons and magnets perfect for conversation starters (envision a grocery list stuck to your fridge with a magnet saying, "May the forest be with you"). The market is open from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sundays until Sept. 26, so drop by and have a look before it packs up for the winter.

The Moss Street Market

The Moss Street Market is a popular destination on a Saturday afternoon for those seeking delicious produce and locally-made crafts. Held on the grounds of Sir James Douglas school (the corner of Moss Street and Fairfield Road), it recently hosted the Moss Street Paint-In on July 19, where artists from the Victoria area came together to show off their talents. The market is open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., and will stay that way until Oct. 25, making it a great time to find those organic veggies you've been craving.

The Sidney Evening Market

A little out of town (but nothing a half-hour drive can't fix) is the Sidney Evening Market. Located right on Beacon Street in downtown Sidney, this coming together of all-things-Vancouver-Island is a shopping trip, a meal and an evening's entertainment rolled into one. You can munch on organic buckwheat mini-doughnuts while browsing the stalls or dancing to the musical stylings of various performers scattered barely out of earshot of each other. Every second person seems to be carrying their own bundle of fresh lavender (one of Sidney's claims to fame) and wandering at a pace that suits the little seaside town. There are over 200 vendors to peruse, and it runs from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday nights until Aug. 28. Time is ticking on this one, so get in before the activities are gone.

It's easy to get wooed into markets while you're backpacking overseas and looking for the perfect pashmina, but your favourite fashion designer could be sitting at a booth right now with a one-of-a-kind dress in your size. These markets won't be around forever, so while the weather is holding out, shop outdoors, shop locally, shop big... then home again, home again, jiggety jig.

Backpacking not easy, but reaps great rewards

Nick Olynyk

There is only one way to spend 10 days in New York City on an $800 budget: backpacking — and my friend Stav (a global traveler from Australia) showed me how to do it.

A backpacker's biggest cost is transportation. And despite rolling in at less than jet speed, buses are usually the cheapest method. The 14-hour Greyhound from Detroit to New York cost $88 US, round trip. By taking the red-eye we saved a night on hotel costs.

With buses it's true that you get what you pay for. Some are crowded, pungent iron lungs. Others are downright bone-chilling. On our trip, we sat near the bathroom (which smelled like stale urine until a bearded man used it and left a skunky, smoky odor for us).

"I always find bus people funny," Stav said. "Look at that couple with the three screaming kids sitting side-by-side with that old lady. You don't find that anywhere else."

Smart backpackers are keen on safety, but tourists are theft targets. After the bus dropped us off beneath New York's Penn Station we walked through Manhattan's underground (a separate city in itself) with a pocket-sized internet map printed beforehand to stay inconspicuous. Stav went to the bathroom to put on his money belt (a little pouch worn inside your jeans), while I sat with our bags and watched rats scurry past. We still needed a room for the night.

Hostels are essential for backpacking. While downtown hotel suites in New York cost around $300 US per night, a hostel costs only $30 US. Styles range from chic apartment lofts to dormitory bunks, though rooms are often shared with up to 10 strangers. They do provide a chance to meet foreign travelers and gain a few drinking buddies.

After checking in, we stashed our bags in free lockers and trudged down Broadway past Tom's Restaurant (better known as 'the Seinfeld coffee shop'). Twelve hours hungry, we hit up a local grocery store and bought cereal, milk, bread, sandwich meat and beans (cheap but necessary staples).

"Should we get some cookies, Stav?" I asked. He reminded me of our $10 per day budget. We took our groceries back to the hostel's remodeled kitchen, complete with stainless steel fridge, stove and cookware (one of the perks to such housing arrangements).

The next time we left, we noticed the posters for organized tours pasted up behind the check-in desk (an asset for anyone who likes planned events, though costs can vary widely). The desk clerk offered us cover passes to Pacha NYC nightclub (a $40 value). Thankful for the unexpected freebie, we pocketed the tickets and headed off.

Structured events and freebies aside, every city offers its own array of tour spots that don't cost a dime — as long as you're careful. Five blocks over, the sun was setting on Central Park. A police officer approached us and said we'd be stupid to walk through the urban maze at night, citing recent muggings and murders. We thanked him for welcoming us and navigated the lamp post-lined foot paths until we hit grey streets again. A cab pulled over at our wave and shuttled us a few minutes downtown, where we gawked at the 30 m tall Vivid Entertainment billboards in Times Square, and the mass of crowds.

For the next nine days we saw the typical tourist hangouts: the Statue of Liberty and the Empire State Building. We also explored local venues like the bohemian art galleries in Brooklyn and the yuppie cafés in the Greenwich Village — often overlooked venues of entertainment for those low on pocket funds.

On our last night, Stav and I sat in an oak bar near Columbia University. The college kids were leaving, as their Wednesday morning classes would begin in a few hours. The bartender asked us if we wanted another $5 pitcher of Miller.

"One more, Stav?" I asked.

"How's our budget?" he slured.

We laughed. Our long bus ride home was leaving in two hours, but the staff chatted with us until they finished sweeping. The night ended with the sun's arrival, and we knew we'd be home by that time the next day, with money to spare.

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Desperate times call for getting dirty down under

Meghan Nay

"Can you clean?" The woman's dark eyes fixed on mine.

"Clean?" I gulped. "I love to clean — do it all the time."

Lying: that was my first mistake.

Seven months into my travels, I found myself on the verge of homelessness and in a state of financial crisis. In the north of Australia, where a Coke costs $4.50, and rent is through the roof, my account balance of $23 was making me nauseous.

Desperate for accomodation, I accepted the only job thrown my way: I would become a cleaner at Castaways Hostel in Cairns. For three hours a day I would be scrubbing showers, polishing toilets and mopping floors.

Which would be a first.

It was that or sleep on the sidewalk (which I did consider for a full five minutes), and this job would provide me with a free room for as long as I liked.

Sure, there was the slight problem that I had zero cleaning skills. To me, tidying up involved shoving everything in my closet, tossing my plastic plate in the garbage and pushing dustbunnies under the couch. But I managed to overlook (and fib) my way through that.

With no other visible option, I donned my first pair of rubber gloves.

My initial shift began with a rundown of the basics from my boss, who turned out to be Martha Stewart on crack. I never knew a person could take cleaning so seriously.

For over an hour she regalled me with details about skin cells growing on showers, scum bulid-up rimming the toilet and bedbugs crawing in the sheets.

At one point she actually made me stick my head in a toilet so I could get a closer look at all that build-up.

Lovely.

With every instruction — "Now I really want you to get on your knees and scrub that shower!" she began to sweat more. By the time she finished telling me I must "treat mopping like an olympic sport" (violently fist pumping only centimetres away from my face), she was so drenched she looked liked she'd stepped out of a sauna.

No wonder the staff referred to her as 'Mother.'

At the end of it all she took a deep breath, placed a wet hand on my shoulder and asked, "So you got it all?"

"Absolutely," I replied.

That was my second mistake.

My first few shifts were a complete disaster — I accidentally misted the kitchen with shower cleaner, mopped the floors with dishsoap and scrubbed the toilets with Windex.

I was too embarrassed to ask how to ring out the mop, and on more than one (okay five) occasions Mother would hall me back down to the office and have me re-do my hard work "with my eyes open this time."

Thankfully, after about a week, I got into the swing of things. Soon I was scrubbing shit with the best of them.

My iPod didnt hurt the process either. I'd often find myself dancing as I mopped or singing aloud as I made the beds. At one point I was belting Shakira and going in for a drop-squat (while scrubbing a toilet) when somebody tapped me on the back.

"Oh hey, sorry, just wondering when I could use the showers?" Two very blue eyes looked down at me. Gorgeous. He was absolutely gorgeous.

Figures.

"Won't be long at all," I mumbled, my face a deep shade of scarlet. I needed to get out. Now.

"I'm actually all done," I lied. Then, head down, I stalked away, mop in rubber-gloved hand, drips of toilet water splashed on my face.

Embarassing moments aside, I began to learn a lot. Number one, hair is on everything. Everything. The sink, the shower, the hallway, the kitchen cupboards.

Number two, I'm allergic to industrial-strength cleaner. By day-six a rash began to reside on my arms. When I spilled half a bottle of concentrate down my leg it looked like someone had taken a blowtorch to my calf. (As if the rubber gloves, shower scum and bit of stale fridge food in my hair weren't enough to make me look terrible.)

After day-eight I began to get over the ick factor. I'd happily jam my arm down a toilet and would no longer gag pulling hairballs from the shower.

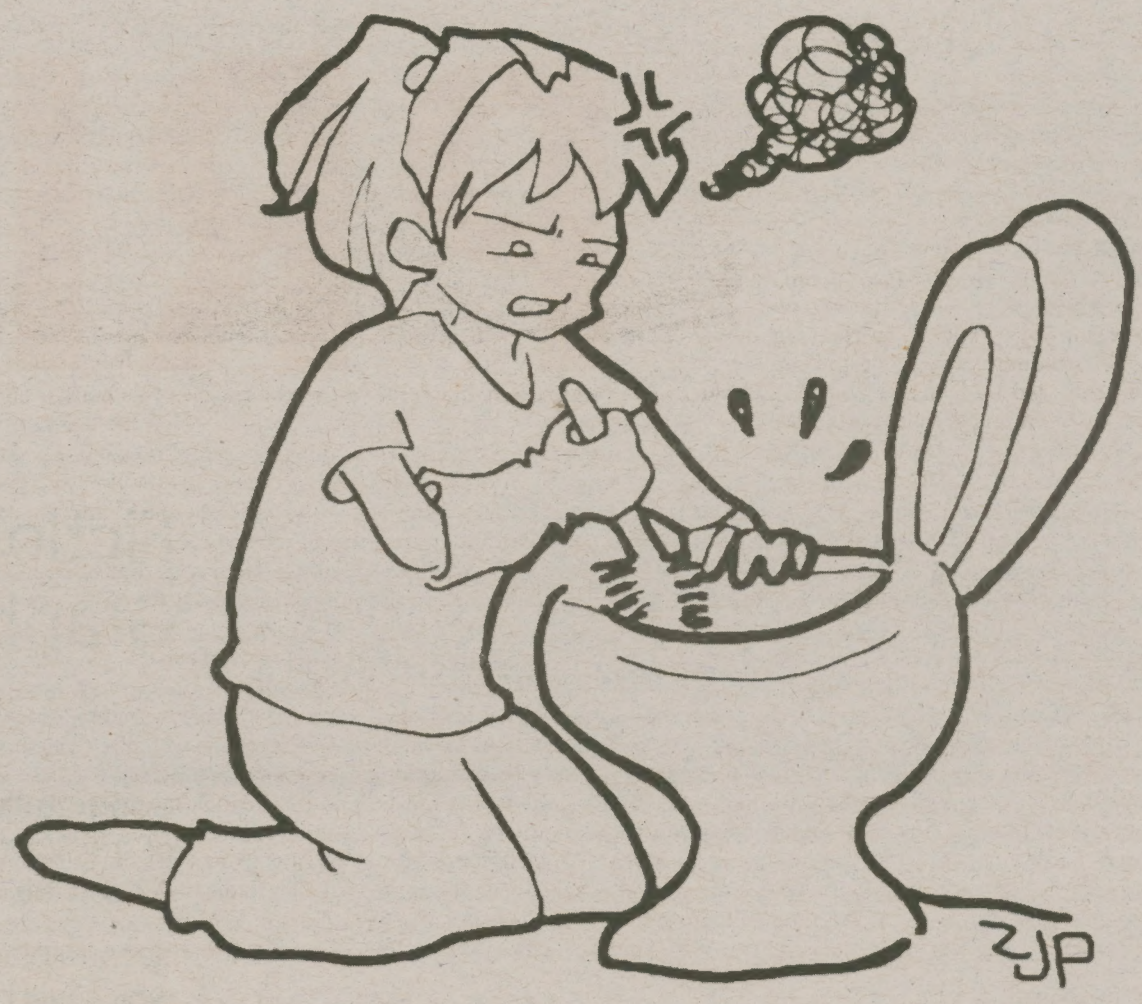
I was also now completely used to finding used condoms under the bed, dirty tampons on the bathroom floor and vomit chunks in the toilet.

Life was good.

Random pubic hairs aside, the job really did have its perks. It was a great workout. My arms became stronger after cumulative hours of scrubbing hardwood floors, and even my tummy felt tighter. Forget counting carbs and enduring spin class. I'd found the cheapest plan of all.

The dress code wasn't bad either. I'd arrive for my afternoon shift in my comfiest shorts and baggiest top. And I never bothered to wear shoes. It also gave me a few peaceful hours completely on my own (even if I did occasionally get busted hip-thrusting in front of sexy guests).

And then there were the leftovers — visitors are constantly leaving goodies behind in their fridge (cookies, apples, milk... beer).



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Soon I had my cleaning down to a perfect routine. I could change a bed in under a minute and spot mildew on the shower before it had a chance to grow. I took a toothbrush to grout, cleaned behind the fridge and dusted the fans. I was a completely new woman.

Even Mother noticed my improvements and said one afternoon that my cleaning "wasn't completely awful." Which I took to be a huge compliment.

I had a love/hate relationship with my job. Loved the free accomodation, hated mopping floors. Loved the eccentric staff, hated Mother. Loved the individuality, hated the rules. So when my friend called a few days later and asked if I'd like to move into her fully furnished apartment, did I say yes?

Of course I did. I'm a backpacker, not an idiot.

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PRISON

Fiction by Erika Van Winden

Graphics by Marc Junker

Congratulations to Erika Van Winden, first place winner of the Martlet's August fiction contest for her short story 'Prison Trail.'

Second place goes to Yasuko Thanh's 'The Other Side' which will be featured in the Sept. 4 issue of the Martlet.

Honourable mention goes to Andrew Ruffell, for 'Endings.'

Esther's left hand sweats against the leather steering wheel, while her other hand secures the green bonnet on her head. The sun in downtown London was hidden behind clouds in the morning, but as she drives towards Wandsworth it hovers like the lantern on Big Ben tower. When she found a bobby pin tucked in the passenger seat she'd pinned one side of the bonnet to her hair, but bunches of short red hair stick out now like an upturned thistle.

The hills around her gradually transform into smooth yellow fields — home is near. The steady high temperature through July had parched the grass and the usual light rain in August hadn't arrived yet. Clouds pass by in the mornings and tease the desiccated land with sagged masses of water but by afternoon leave as stuffed as they had come. The road in front of Esther dances with illusions of puddles and the road signs shimmy like salsa dancers. To avoid the commotion, she looks to the stone building on the horizon to her left. She knows it's a jail, but she's not sure if it's maximum or minimum. It looks like a solitary building in the distance that lives in a separate world than the rest of England.

A faint whirl comes from within the hood and Esther leans towards the dashboard then sticks her fake fingernail into one of the air-conditioning vents. Her puzzled expression turns to the temperature gauge but the needle is in the green zone. She sticks another fingernail into the vent but the nail snaps off and lands near her feet.

"Aw Christ!" She glances at the road then plunges her left shoulder down towards the gear-box and leans her face near the wheel. Her lipstick smears against the hot leather and she can feel the nail but needs an inch more to grab it. She heaves her chest forward and squishes her face against the horn, being careful not to beep it. "Yes!" She pops her hand that holds the nail into the air and drums a victory beat on the top of the windshield frame; the convertible swerves a little but keeps a steady path on the road. She parks alongside a steep ditch and grabs her purse to find a safe place to put her nail.

"You headed to Oxford?" a man's voice asks. Esther grips her purse and shoots her eyes up to the voice that comes from beside the passenger door. His lips are spread out in a weak grin and pieces of dried skin spot them like numbers on a pink die. His eyes seem to recede into their sockets to hide behind cheekbones that sit like summits on his face. His jump suit looks like an orange monster, a parasite that clings to his body, eating what it can.

Esther's gaze shifts to the building in the background, and then to the Orange Monster. "Are you a prisoner?" she asks.

The man doesn't answer. He searches for pockets but he has none, so he drops his hands to his sides. "I might be," he whispers.

She throws her purse to her feet and scrambles to press the automatic locks.

The man's eyebrows arch, he leans his two hands onto the door and slouches his weight onto his wrists. Esther stares at the thick lambskin gloves he's wearing. "Going to roll the windows up too?" he says.

Esther's eyes move from side to side and her lips tremble as she calculates the time it would take her to start the engine, let down the parking brake and put the car into gear. Her face scrunches, and her shoulder slump. "What do you want?" she asks.

"I need a ride to Oxford," he said.

Her eyes close and she lets out a breath. "Are you out of your fucking mind, lad?"

"A little, yeah," he grins. "But everyone's a little yampy if you ask me."

She doesn't move; he doesn't move either. "What's in Oxford?" she asks.

"Me nan."

Esther squints and waits for him to step away from the car. The stranger doesn't move. "I'm expected home, soon," she lies. "If I'm not there within the next half-hour me husband will phone the police."

The man looks at her left hand where there's no ring. He reaches over the door and slides his thumb into the handle and pulls it open. Esther notices he's careful that he body doesn't touch anything more than it needs to. He pushes a beige canvas bag that says 'Laundry' at his feet, then pulls out a scarf and wraps it around his face and neck. Esther's body remains plastered to her seat. She stares at the sweat on his forehead — the skin is white, almost blue, and wisps of wet hair stick out from under a hat and cling to his face.

"Aren't you absolutely mafted under all them clothes?" she asks.

He ignores her and offers his hand. "Me name's Julius."

As they drive, Julius finds a book on the floor; the title reads, 'Lay Down Your Arms'. "What's this?" he asks.

"A book," answers Esther.

"You don't say?" says Julius. He flips through the pages with his thick gloves. "Is it any good?"

"It's fine."

"I think you should tell me what it's about."

"It's a book written by a woman who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1905. She's Austrian. That's all I know."

"Well, bullshit, isn't it?"

Esther cringes and looks in her rear-view mirror as hundreds of unread pages get ripped and torn by the wind speed. She concentrates on the road in front of her and bites her lips to keep them tight.

"You want to know why I did that?" he asks.

Esther remains silent.

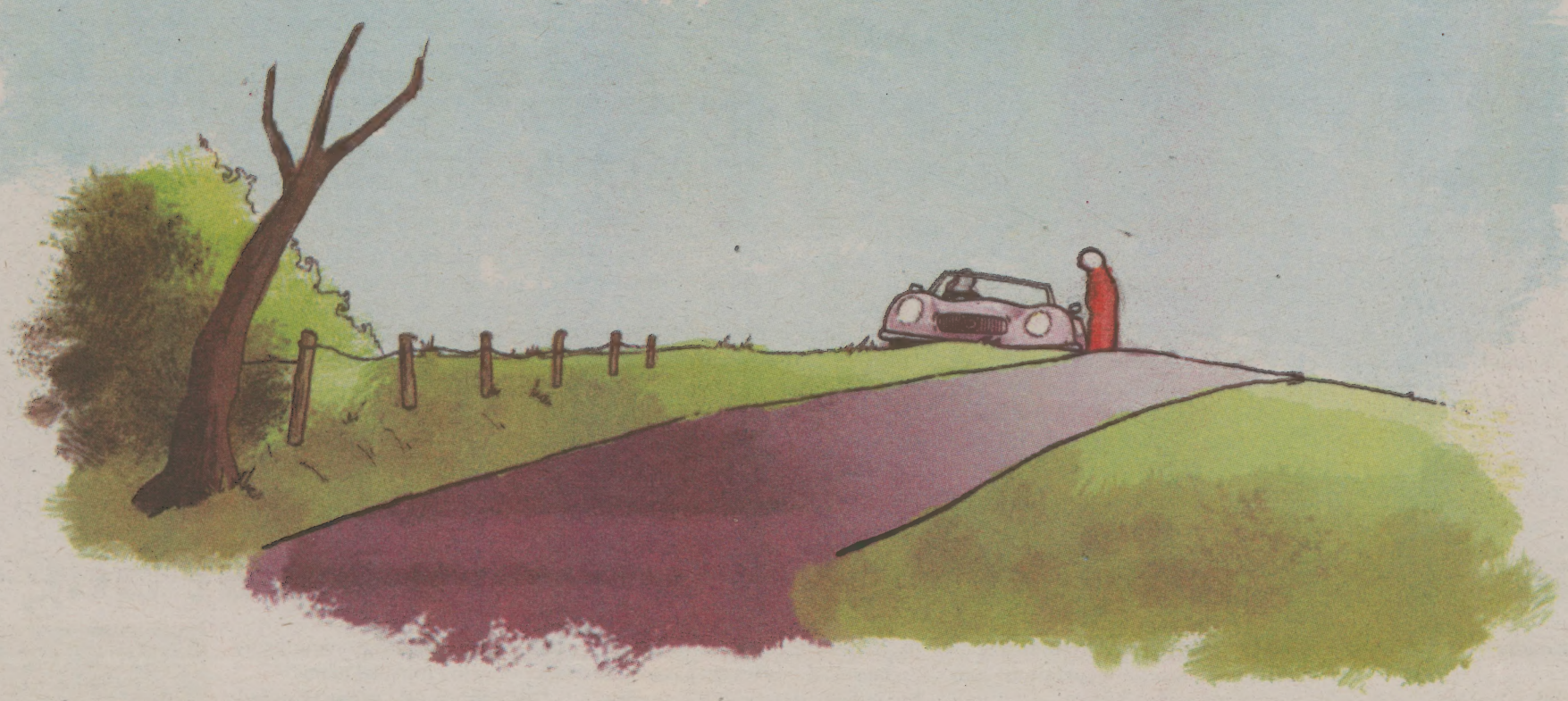
"I'll give you two minutes to answer," he announces.

The skin under Esther's eyes wrinkle.

"120, 119, 118..."

"I don't know!" she shouts, and shakes the wrinkles off her face.

TRAIL



"Ok, that's fine; you don't have to know everything. I'm sorry that I chucked your book, but here's another question." Esther clenches her teeth; she had imagined prisoners were quiet and introverted not know-it-all interrogators. "How many people have won the Nobel Peace Prize?"

"No idea," Esther retorts.

"113..."

"Ok, sorry. I'll guess and say, 100, maybe 150 people."

"I meant 113 people have won it. Well, 94 people and 19 organizations"

Esther glares at him.

"I read it on one of the intro pages," he smiles.

She breathes out.

"So, if so many goddamn people have won it, wouldn't we have peace by now?" he says. "Look at our world, even just England, it's a pretty nasty country don't you think? I'd say Mozart has done more for Austria than that peace woman."

The wheat fields sway like gentle waves and parts of the fields are dark with shadows from the clouds. Esther drives with careful attention to potholes that scatter all the country roads in England, and drives on the other side of the road to pass them.

"Oy! There's a big one up ahead!" shouts Julius. Esther hears the noise but the words are tousled in the wind so she lifts her chin in his direction. He looks at her and parts his lips to repeat but instead his lips slap shut.

"What?" shouts Esther. She gently presses her foot on the brake and watches the speedometer descend but before it touches 40 miles, the car shakes and Esther's face creases when she hears the crunch of metal. She wrenches the steering wheel to the left and parks her car on the side of the road. "Shit!" She bangs her hands on the steering wheel and reaches her hands up to pull at her hair. The wind has tangled it and she runs her fingers through to undo the knots.

Julius moves in his seat, "You want me to check it out?"

What good would that do? Esther asks herself, but then she leans back into her seat. Her muscles ease and she looks over at him, "Would you do that for me?"

She waits for him to squat by the tires but he only glances at the side panel. Before he opens the door, Esther suggests he look at the tire and the area above it in case there's any damage. Julius pauses and tilts his head, his forehead glistens and his collar is dark with sweat. She waits in his silence and struggles to keep her eyes from blinking.

"You think I'm a nit? A fucking get?" he asks.

Esther cringes. Her eyes shift to the corner of his head where it seems a dark trickle of sweat runs down his temple.

"No," she stutters, "I... I think you're... you're bleeding." She points to his head.

Julius presses a glove to his head and when he pulls it away there's a wet bloodstain. "Fuck!" he shouts. "Do you have a tissue?"

Esther shakes her head.

"You could bloody well at least look!"

She reaches under her seat, then searches the glove-compartment box while Julius attempts to stop the blood flow. He beats the thick lambskin gloves against his head, fwap, fwap, fwap, but a surge of blood runs down his face. The stream breaks into smaller streams and travels down his neck like veins.

"What the hell did you do?" she shrieks.

"Nothing, it just does this. I won't be able to stop it. We need to get to Oxford."

"Fuck Oxford!" she shouts.

"No!" he hollers. "You need to drive me there!"

Less potholes dot the road and houses gradually appear at a regular rate. Esther keeps her speed at a steady 50 miles — wherever it is she is suppose to go, she wants to be there quick, but she wants to make sure they arrive safely. A green sign indicates they have entered Oxford. From her peripheral vision, Esther sees that he pays attention to the street signs.

"Do we need to ask for directions?" she asks.

Julius' head goes back and forth as he watches the surroundings go by. "Stop right here."

Esther pulls over and parks her car behind a black Triumph. The car moves as Julius climbs out and when Esther looks over, Julius is at the cemetery gate. It shakes from his hands that tremor on it. Esther keeps her hands on the closed door and observes Julius' slow shuffles through the thick gravel. A drop falls on her cheek; she brushes it away and looks up to the sky, the dark clouds have returned and this time they empty their load. She drops her chin and returns her gaze to the path Julius was on, his orange jumpsuit lies rumpled on the path. He is gone.

Esther rests her fingers on the keys in the ignition, her eyes wander to the empty space beside her and she picks a strand of hair off the seat. The bag of clothes sits slumped on the floor and she huffs and fumbles to lift it.

Esther makes her way through the cemetery and finds him on his side in front of a tombstone. She approaches and maneuvers between dry leaves. His ribs rise and fall slowly and each descent exposes a piece of the name on the tombstone but not enough to make out the entire name. Esther places the bag under Julius' head and steps away. The back of her legs hit a tombstone and the strand of hair falls out of her hands. She doesn't look; instead she makes her way back to the car. When she passes his prison suit she breaths in and picks it up. She knows she is being childish, but she looks inside it. Nothing is there. She breathes out and folds the piece of clothing and puts it off to the side of the path.

UVic author forges hope for fiction dreamers

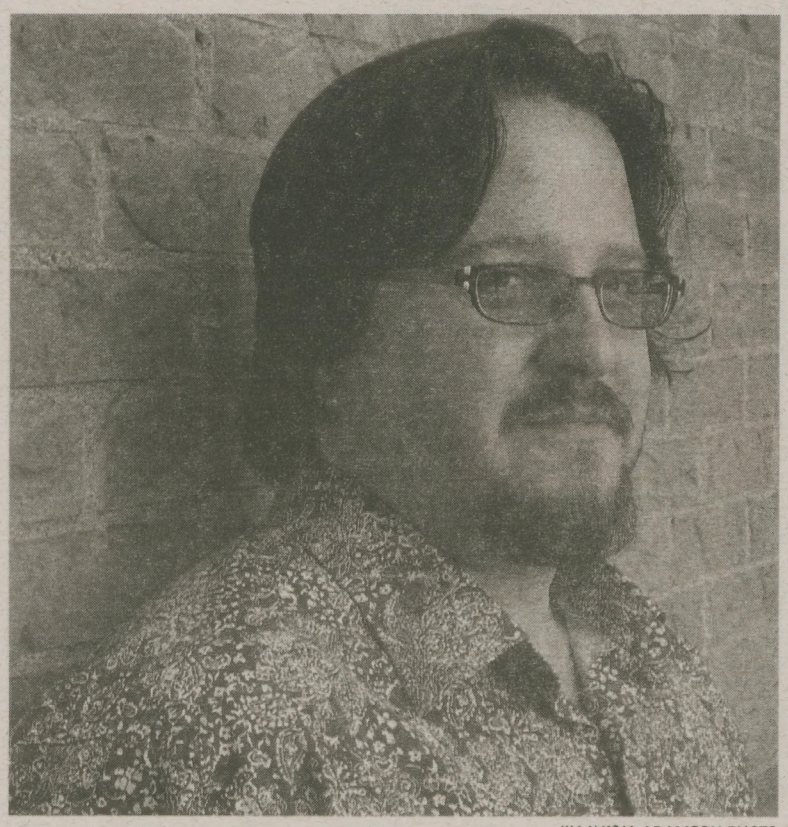
Jillayna Adamson

Robert J. Wiersema is a true Victoria local — the type you just might run into on the street, or say, at Bolen Books.

While Wiersema may be the published author of *Before I Wake*, a 2006 novel that has gone on to become a best seller across Canada and the UK (out in paperback in the U.S. this summer), he's also an average fellow, just doing his part to put Victoria on the map in the literary world.

Before I Wake is Wiersema's first novel, and actually takes place in Victoria. The storyline is fictional, with a touch of supernatural essence, and the book itself is a fluid read that instantly becomes hard to put down and evokes a strong range of creative thought.

Mostly though, Wiersema has crafted the type of story that readers can't help but remember — a story that lingers days after finishing the book, is brought up in casual conversations and somehow swirled into dreams. He stretches realms of reality and possibility right into everyday people. *Before I Wake* is not just a sequence of events, but a spin of new angles on everyday events. Wiersema takes what could be simple, and makes it memorable.



JILLAYANA ADAMSON PHOTO

Robert J. Wiersma's 2006 novel, *Before I Wake*, was based in Victoria.

That feat is no surprise, considering Wiersema graduated with a degree in honours English from the UVic in 1993, where he began as a student of writing and history.

Like many aspiring writers at UVic, Wiersema had dreams of one day becoming a published author. He remembers himself as a typical slacking first-year student interested in parties and freedom, but also doesn't hesitate to mention the potent opportunities that he received in university from the start, and the appreciated knowledge he gained from his experience in multiple departments.

Today (15 years later) he is an everyman of Victoria, with a wife of 16 years (who he met during his first year at UVic) and an eight-year-old son. But Wiersema never gave up on his younger days of dreaming — a place where many university students are currently floating, starry-eyed and invincible.

It may be his drive (and possibly his self-described "quirky mind") that brought Wiersema to a place of incorporating his days of dreaming into the real world, but writing, as well as a love for reading, has been embedded in him from a young age.

Wiersema tells the story of himself at age 12 when he had desperately stolen the book, *The World According To Garp*, and simply "devoured" it. It was then that he realized, as he describes, that his "problems weren't problems — they were symptoms of being alive." It was reading this book that gave Wiersema permission to "see life as a writer" and put himself on such a path.

Wiersema has already gone beyond accomplishing one of his goals, though he is eager for the next. Despite being a former writer for the Martlet, Wiersema says the publication and success of his novel both stunned and thrilled him.

"I didn't write it to be a best-seller," Wiersema said. "I wrote it with no expectations."

In addition, Wiersema was overjoyed at the popularity of what he describes as "an odd book," noting that *Before I Wake*'s storyline can be difficult to classify; he says its subject matter can be difficult to wrap your head around.

Wiersema wakes daily at three a.m., often going through a couple of pots of coffee a day. Why rise at such an hour? Devotion, passion and a love for what he does. Wiersema says he rolls out of bed when his creative mind is alive and fresh, newly awakened from deep dreaming. Then he writes.

Wiersema hasn't stopped, either. Not only is he currently working on his next novel, due to be released fall of 2009, but he reviews books for a variety of newspapers, including the Vancouver Sun and National Post. In addition to his writing endeavors, Wiersema runs the author event series at Bolen Books.

And while his face may not stand out in a crowd, you may have unknowingly crossed paths with this famous dreamer already.

Girl Talk's sound creates sweet buzz at Sugar

Marri Knadle

With just a laptop, his ingenuity and a wealth of chart-topping tracks at his fingers, Greg Gillis (the mash-up artist known as Girl Talk) created a memorable night at Sugar nightclub on July 23.

At 9:00 p.m., Sugar was dead. Men in skinny jeans strode through Sugar's brooding, pro-vampire interior like wading birds; the first ones on the scene. One such bird loping across the vacant dance floor was the man himself. Gillis (the biomedical engineer and laptop jockey) was en route to examine the stage, his curtain of hair swaying as he went.

The dames in short skirt-dresses appeared soon after, as other ambassadors of varied social niches filtered in and populated the dance floor with loud talk and light swaying. The front bands opened the night (one with a song that involved ear-shattering screeches which incited pained hisses), and played to a largely inattentive audience that was eager only for Girl Talk.

The buildup stretched on forever as the nightclub slowly filled to capacity for the sold-out show.

The social lubricants passed out by Sugar's bartenders ensured the usual controlled mayhem of a night out was not missed. The girls' bathroom was constantly packed with women waiting to get into stalls which, like a bladder-punishing game of Russian roulette, surprised the inebriated occupant with a broken door lock, or an absence of toilet paper. There was talk of Imodium and laxatives in the air. There was talk of revenge against pushy bitches who allegedly caused friends to fall on the dance floor. But finally, the real Girl Talk began.

An unholy marriage of Bikram's hot yoga and tai-bo only begins to describe the sweaty, pulsating situation near the stage. The air was thick with cries of joy and fake smoke, raised hands pumping in the flashing lights. Despite Sugar's usual policy of keeping dancers away from the stage, Gillis invited people near and quickly had himself surrounded by the boldest dancers, completely hiding him from view. Somewhere in the seething mass of bodies he had provoked, a bright young guy was working musical magic.

Girl Talk's music suggests an impressive combination of both musical and digital-editing prowess, which many critics have failed to appreciate (often scoffing at his music for being 'just' sample mash-ups). Each of Gillis' most recent tracks contains at least a dozen samples, insightfully arranged, representing hours of stripping songs down to their bare elements and cobbling together these components into a whole new experience.

The music effectively layers connotations of memories from the songs we love and hate to create a new emotional experience. Gillis will force you to reconsider your own musical tastes. Who could have imagined Kelly Clarkson's "Since U Been Gone" could be so improved by a bit of guitar from "Wish" by Nine Inch Nails, as it is in "Here's The Thing"?

Gillis played mashups from his most recent album, *Feed The Animals*, which he released in a digital pay-as-you-please format reminiscent of Radiohead's *In Rainbows* (seekers can find the album at myspace.com/girltalk).

PROVIDED IMAGE

Girl Talk's latest album, *Feed the Animals*, is avaliable online in pay-as-you-please format.

Gillis also dove into some free-form tracks, swapping out base lines, beats and lyrics in ways that deviated from the album in delightful new ways. With three other albums released, plus two EPs and a score of shows under his belt, it's no surprise that Girl Talk kept the dance floor ranting until 2 a.m.

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ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

'Arctic Fire,' of the Veil Series by Harry Stanbridge is just one of the many Popular/Optical art pieces visitors will see at the Maltwood gallery.

UVic brings artistic icons to students

Andrew Smith

What: P/Op! Parallel Visions in Pop & Op from the UVic Art Collection
Where: The Maltwood Gallery
When: Now until Sept. 22

The latest Maltwood Gallery and Museum exhibition features a number of American icons as well as contemporary West Coast Canadian Artists of the highest caliber – compliments of UVic's art collection.

Over 40 paintings, prints, collages, sculptures and films portray a number of common themes through and exhibit that offers an intimate look at some of the world's most famous art movements. Both the Pop and Optical movements were a reaction to the previously dominant ideas of abstract expressionism and an expansion upon those ideas.

Pop Art was a result of a reaction and fascination to popular culture. It was a movement for change – a movement that refused the traditional authority encompassing art in the post-abstract era. The movement flourished worldwide as it embraced and celebrated mass media. It was a revolution against the orthodox, redefining art in the post-modernist era.

Optical (Op) Art, was established during the 60s, and centered around visual effects and perceptual tensions. Both movements flourished within a decade of each other and received extreme amounts of criticism. Op Art was often accused of being merely "tricks of the eye," while Pop Art was seen as superficial and lacking artistic value.

The show runs until late Sept. and it will feature work from a number of renowned artists, including Eric Metcalfe, Carl Beam, Harry Stanbridge and Michael Morris.

Metcalfe began his career at UVic studying as a young visual arts student. His famous leopard print style received worldwide recognition with a Governor General's Award, arguably the highest accolade for a Canadian artist in the domestic art scene. His rarely seen "Boys in the Band" piece sits centre-stage in the gallery with three musicians and their conductor in full swing.

Jack Kidder creates a trick of the eye with his sculpture piece, 'Untitled.' When viewed straight on, a ball appears to be suspended in mid-air. When viewed from an angle, the piece creates the illusion of a ball being moved through several layers of plexi-glass.

The show also displays works by icons Roy Lichtenstein and Nicholas Krushenick. Andy Warhol's work makes an appearance with a silkscreen print of Harvey Lee Oswald. Jasper Johns is also featured in the Maltwood show, with the recently acquired 'Alphabet' piece.

Rarely are works with such historic value available for the student body at UVic. The show is a taster for those interested both in the movements of Pop and Op Art, and art history itself.

SUMMER GOURMET

Berry parfait made for hot summer days

Lindsay Pope

If you're looking for a sweet pick-me-up on a sunny afternoon, this recipe is a showcase of versatility at its finest.

You can substitute almost anything for the ingredients (depending on your dietary choices) and you'll be rewarded with a cool, quick and delicious fruit boost.

The measurements given here are only guidelines — you can use more or less depending on the size of the glass you wish to use.

If not using ice cream, these cups can be made ahead of time and held for several hours in the fridge, but don't garnish until just before serving.

LINDSAY POPE PHOTO

Easy Summer Parfait

80 ml (1/3 cup) blueberries*
80 ml (1/3 cup) raspberries*
125 ml (1/2 cup) Greek-style honey yogurt (vanilla yogurt, ice cream, or dessert tofu may be used as substitutes)
Whipped cream and mint leaves to garnish (optional)

Gently rinse the berries in cold water, then drain and turn out onto a paper towel to dry. Cover the bottom of a glass with about 1 inch (2.5 cm) of blueberries, then cover this with a layer of yogurt. Add a layer of raspberries and continue the pattern until the glass is full, finishing with a few berries on top. Garnish with a swirl of whipped cream and mint leaves. Serve cool and enjoy!

*Use your favourite kind of berry and/or fruit to make this dish your own unique summer treat.

THE MARTLET

The Martlet is looking for interim editors for our September issues.

- are you comfortable with InDesign and Photoshop?
- do you have newsroom experience?
- do you work well under pressure?

HOW TO APPLY: Bring your resume and samples of your work to the Martlet office (SUB B011) or submit by email to rmanedi@martlet.ca by noon, August 25th. See martlet.ca/jobs for more info.

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CD REVIEWS

Songs to seduce every eardrum

The Sainte Catherines
The Soda Machine
Indica Records

In punk rock (and I mean real punk rock, not over-processed, top-40 shit) respect is everything. That respect comes from working your ass off playing to a crowd of five kids at all the dive bars in every hick town, sleeping in your rusty tin-can van in between.

The Sainte Catherines deserve respect. These Montreal punks have been throwing themselves into tiny tours and rotating line-ups for eight years. Their latest release, *The Soda Machine*, is a homage to all that life in between.

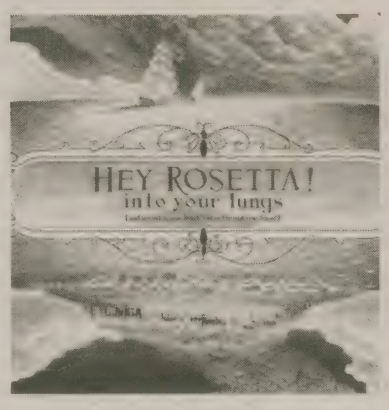
The CD includes 25 songs recorded between 2000 and 2007, showcasing the band's growth since its inception. In songs like 2000's "Bright Stars," lyrics like "life's so fucking tough but my friends will watch my back," expose the hopeful teens that started the band. These lyrics contrast with more recent 2004 material, like "October 4: The International Day of Lies," where vocalist Hugo Mudie spits: "Why do you think you are owning bands? You are exactly who you claim to hate."

Mid-album, listeners go from hearing Mudie's captivating voice harass their ears over incomprehensibly fast drums, to a semi-ballad in "The Unforgiven 3 (Best Song Ever)." But the entire album possesses an undeniable energy.

Also included is *The Soda Machine* DVD, a documentary by Sophie Fortier and Audrey Gauthier, which chronicles the band's tumultuous first eight years. The DVD is more than just the usual self-congratulatory mix many bands release with their greatest hits albums — it's more like a scrapbook, with both the band and others sharing their favorite memories on everything from fistfights in Halloween costumes to crappy tour vans.

For those who haven't followed The Sainte Catherines, *The Soda Machine* offers a glimpse of what it takes to be a real punk band. After listening to the CD and watching the DVD, it's easy to see how proud The Sainte Catherines are to continue to represent underground music, even if that means that after eight years they still can't make rent and sleep in a rusty tin-can van on tour.

- Gemma Karstens-Smith



Hey Rosetta!
Into Your Lungs
Sonic Records

For Hey Rosetta!'s fans, their newest album couldn't have come soon enough. After winning multiple awards for their seven-song EP *Plan Your Escape*, the Newfoundland band's second effort doesn't disappoint.

Into Your Lungs may have come out only a year after their debut EP, but the album is far from rushed.

Tim Baker, Adam Hogan, Josh Ward, Phil Maloney and Kinley Dowling seem to be developing, rather than redefining, themselves unlike so many other bands these days. They have found their sound and are sticking to it, while still managing to improve.

Hey Rosetta!'s full sound, so present in their first album, is more organized, allowing listeners to hear each instrument featured in remarkable fullness. Despite all of the sounds vying for attention, the arrangements are truly spectacular. They are able to emphasize a simple bass line, then a cello and violin carrying on in full force.

While Hey Rosetta! has always had their own sound, this album has some obvious hints of its producer, Hawksley Workman (found largely in Baker's voice). It's more of an influence than an imitation, much the same way that close friends start to speak alike.

The band has a knack for brilliance, but they avoid pretention. The large group vocals and occasional clapping makes their songs feel comfortable, like those you wouldn't mind singing right along with Hey Rosetta! in their living room. With Workman as their mentor and their continued growth, Hey Rosetta! is one band to keep your ear on.

- Trisha Giene

Chromatics
Night Drive
Italians Do It Better

Portland's Chromatics have fully shed their noisy past, leaving every song on their new album, *Night Drive*, slick and dance-able.

Luckily, those tunes are far from obnoxious, disposable pop songs. You could easily listen to the same song twice. *Night Drive* sparkles like a jungle at night: dew-laden, dark and humid.

The album conjures the sense of enchantment that could accompany a moonless walk through vacant suburban streets at night. It's the perfect soundtrack for languishing under the glow of streetlights.

Some tracks expose the raw sound of pick-against-guitar string, becoming unexpectedly loud and intimate at times. In the chorus of the song "Night Drive," there's a beautiful moment when the percussion seems to consist singularly of teardrops and maracas. The record has a tinge of defiance in some fine moments — but not so much a rebellious defiance as one elegantly understated.

The Chromatics' album is easy to fall in love with. For listeners hoping for more, the group plays at the Sweatshop in Vancouver on August 9.

- Katherine Walkiewicz

Dark Knight spins one terrifying tale

Ian Venables

PROVIDED IMAGE

Batman's back with a vengeance violent enough to startle viewers.

Christopher Nolan's follow up to his critically acclaimed *Batman Begins* soars into theatres as one of the most highly anticipated movies of the year and does not disappoint.

The Dark Knight smashed box office records, bumping Spiderman 3 from the top spot by topping $155 million in its opening weekend.

Christian Bale leads a cast full of heavyweights including Morgan Freeman, the late Heath Ledger, Aaron Eckhart, Michael Caine and Gary Oldman. Maggie Gyllenhaal replaces Katie Holmes as Bruce Wayne's big squeeze, while Batman combats a new wave of crime flooding Gotham City.

With the help of newly-appointed district attorney Harvey Dent (Eckhart), crime in Gotham appears to be a thing of the past. The mob is running, and corruption within the police force is slowly being tackled. Wayne finds Dent "a hero with a face" and is optimistic that soon Gotham City will no longer need the caped vigilante. But what neither of the two are prepared for is a new breed of criminal: the Joker.

Heath Ledger (virtually unrecognizable under the make-up and voice) inhabits the role as Batman's arch nemesis in convincing fashion — he robs banks but isn't interested in money. What the Joker is really after is the true identity of Batman. That, and to watch Gotham destroy itself. He doesn't really have a reason, but as Alfred tells Wayne: "Some men aren't looking for anything logical. They can't be bought, bullied, reasoned or negotiated with. Some men just want to watch the world burn."

Ledger's performance is truly deserving of the recent Oscar-buzz it has been generating. Each word and every facial movement is so meticulously detailed that it's impossible to take your eyes off him while he's on the screen. Even if he isn't nominated, Ledger's construction will join an elite group of characters (including Hannibal Lector and Anton Chigurh) as one of the creepiest villains in recent memory.

But Nolan doesn't let the Joker take over the film the way Jack Nicholson did as the maniacal villain in Tim Burton's 1989 *Batman*. He also doesn't let special effects dominate the action. He demonstrates a clear break from the goofy, cartoonish and uninspired direction the Batman franchise of old took by providing something much more sinister and realistic.

The Dark Knight may be a superhero movie, but there's more going on here than a conventional battle between good and evil. The film touches on relevant issues such as the invasion of privacy, morality and the pains humanity will go through in order to save itself. Nolan also doesn't allow the film to be restricted by its genre, incorporating elements from crime films and noir pictures to create a handsome hero flick with a brain.

Great stunt-work, stunning cinematography and just the right dose of CGI creates a filmed symphony of beautifully organized chaos. The film was shot on location in Chicago which, as Gotham, strengthens the sense of realism not found in earlier films. Some sensational aerial footage was shot with IMAX cameras, so viewers stand to be dazzled.

Although the runtime clocks in at two and a half hours, time flies. For what you get, it's undeniably the best bang for your buck for this year's summer blockbusters. But *The Dark Knight* is rated 14A for a reason. It's an intense, violent, bleak and gripping depiction of a city bordering on the brink of anarchy while attempting to cope with an unfathomable villain. And as the darkest Batman ever produced, it's perhaps one of the most sinister superhero films ever made.

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Local cyclists race for gold in Beijing

Gavin Day

The next time Alex Wrubleski is on Canadian soil, she may be carrying a new piece of hardware around her neck.

The Regina-born, Victoria-based cyclist set off to Germany on July 18 as part of Team Canada's final preparations for the Beijing Olympics. And while Wrubleski is on a high after winning the road race and the bronze medal in the time trial at the recent Canadian Championships in Beauce, Que., there could be more to come.

Fellow Victoria cyclist Erinne Willock and Cambridge, Ontario native Leigh Hobson, also trained and raced with Wrubleski in Germany. From there, the team traveled to Sweden, where they continued their preparations until the end of July. From Sweden they made the trip to Kyoto, Japan for a week of training and to get acclimatized to the heat prior to venturing over to Beijing on Aug. 6.

The team will arrive in Beijing only two days before the start of the Games so that they can avoid the much-publicized pollution and smog that continues to haunt the Beijing organizers. Cyclists will be among the athletes most affected by the poor air quality,

PROVIDED PHOTO

Victoria-based cyclist Alex Wrubleski will be one of three female cyclists representing Canada at the Aug. Olympics in Beijing.

and Wrubleski said that there is next to nothing riders can do to prepare for what the environment will throw at them.

"You can't acclimatize to something like pollution, which is why we're coming into Bejing at the last second," said Wrubleski. "What you can acclimatize to is the heat, which is why we're going to Japan. The heat in Japan will be similar to what we'll feel in Beijing."

The women's road race takes place on Aug. 10, while the time trial takes place Aug. 13. Wrubleski will be the lone Canadian woman in the time trial field — a spot she earned thanks to her third-place finish in Beauce. She finished ahead of both Hobson and Willock.

> "She is a great teammate and the course in Beijing really suits her,"
>
> *-Alex Wrubleski on fellow Victoria cyclist Erinne Willock*

Wrubleski proved she has a strong kick that matches her strong climbing skills by winning the National road race in a sprint finish. But much of the credit for the win lies with Willock, who served as the lead out for Wrubleski, allowing her to sprint away to the victory. Willock is also Wrubleski's teammate on the California-based Webcor builders pro cycling team.

When the team was announced on June 19, Hobson and Wrubleski were the first two names announced; but there was some controversy over who would get the third spot: Willock, or veteran Anne Samplonius. After some legal wrangling, it was confirmed on June 30 that Willock would get the final spot. Wrubleski thinks that having someone she races with on a daily basis can only be advantageous to the Canadian squad.

"I definitely wanted Erinne to go from the beginning," she said. "She is a great teammate and the course in Beijing really suits her."

In analyzing the course, Wrubleski figures the road race in Beijing will be decided on a 12 km climb that the competitors will reach right at the end of the race.

"The race ends on a circuit that we do twice; it'll be a pretty flat course up until that giant climb which we have to do twice as well," said Wrubleski. "It'll be where the race is decided for sure — the time trial also goes up the hill."

Wrubleski's season started in Feb. with the Tour of Geelong in Australia. Unlike competitors in many other sports, the Olympics will not mark the end of her season. She still has the World Championships from Sept. 23-28 in Varese, Italy. Keeping primed for a season that lasts from Feb. until Sept. is no easy feat for a cyclist.

"It does get pretty challenging to stay motivated for the whole season," said Wrubleski. "What a lot of riders do is start early, have some downtime in the middle of the season before ramping it up again. I think that I'll be taking the time after I compete and look around and explore Beijing and use that as downtime. But I may change my mind and decide to come home early, before Worlds."

Wrubleski shares many similarities with another Saskatchewan native, Canadian Olympic sweetheart Clara Hughes. Much like Hughes, Wrubleski started in speed skating before taking up the bike competitively. As for whether she's considered following Hughes' path and returning to competitive speed skating, Wrubleski cannot deny that she has felt the urge to strap on the skates again, but says she has more pressing matters on her mind at the moment.

"I do think about that a lot. It would be a tough decision to make," said Wrubleski. "I wouldn't be able to do both sports if I decided to take up speed skating again. But an important decision like that will have to wait until after the Olympics."

Vikes face foes in soccer fiesta

Dorian Geiger

On the evening of July 18, a rare exhibition match between the Vikes and an Under-18 Mexican soccer club kicked itself off, and proved that the Vikes were up for the challenge.

The Under-18 soccer crew had been traveling across Canada's west coast, playing various exhibition matches against teams at UBC, SFU and UVic. But the UVic squad boasted a combined roster of both Vikes' soccer alumni and current athletes, and the Vikes dominated both halves with solid control and physical play. They emerged victorious with a 5-1 win. Mexico's Jose Carlos Cruz netted his team's lone point.

The Vikes played with impressive precision and control, forcing the young Mexican squad to give up several turnovers, and managing to keep the ball in the offensive zone for the majority of the match. Mexico's quiet offensive pressure for most of the match couldn't be underrated, especially when considering the team's oldest athlete is 18-years-old.

The match was played for fun, but it wasn't until the two halves had been completed that the curious story behind the game was revealed.

Vancouver-born Gary Geddes, one of the most influential authors and distinguished poets in B.C., had met Mexican coach Hadiadic Reza in Chiapas, Mexico a few years ago. The two strangers hit it off, and Reza and Geddes stayed in contact until this summer, when Geddes was able to use his connections to arrange for the Mexican coach and his young soccer club to travel to Canada.

"I've never played soccer and don't really follow it, we just happened to meet on a bus," Geddes jokingly commented.

Reza spoke highly of the amazing journey his soccer club experienced in traveling to Canada, saying the trip thus far has been nothing short of a miracle.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

"We're loving it. The boys had a dream of exploring soccer opportunities in Canada, and after communicating with Gary on a frequent basis, it was set up for us," Reza gushed, while complimenting the hospitality he's received from everyone since arriving in Canada.

UBC paid for the Mexican soccer squad's plane tickets and helped out with cheap lodging. The two teams competed against each other earlier in the week, and Reza noted the Thunderbird's strength.

"UBC was tough and made the boys really nervous," said Reza. "It's a very strong kind of soccer out here that depends on the body and a physical style of play."

Vikes' coach Bruce Wilson also planned for Reza and the Mexican soccer club to have a worthwhile experience while staying in B.C.'s capital, and scheduled a training session for the boys on July 19. While Wilson said the Under-18 team was not of the same caliber as the Vikes, he also noted that it was fun for the Vikes and alumni to play them.

"[The Mexican team] was definitely younger than our squad and certainly missed having full numbers of players," said Wilson, who captained Canada's squad in the 1986 FIFA World Cup Finals. "The match was played in good spirits, and I hope they had a good time in Victoria."

Sebastián de Regil, the 18-year-old captain of the Mexican team spoke shyly for his team, but was thrilled with the opportunity.

"The game was very cool," de Regil said. "We had a lot of fun."

Reza credited that once-in-a-lifetime soccer opportunity to the warmth and generosity he's received from Geddes, leaving the team with only one thing worth complaining about: the cold Canadian summer weather.

THE MARTLET

The Martlet would like thank all of our volunteers for their hard work during the summer issues.

Our issue on September 4 is the last chance to get clippings and experience before we do our fall hiring so email edit@martlet.ca to get involved!

RICHMOND GATE

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FIELD HOCKEY

Exhibition shows Canada's skills

Under-23 team gives a sturdy run, but proves an easy match for Olympic athletes

Dorian Geiger

DORIAN GEIGER PHOTO

Team Canada's Olympic field hockey squad battled the Under-23 team at UVic on July 19, leaving the Under-23 team with a well played 6-0 loss.

Growing up on a farm in Saskatchewan and playing ice hockey on the dugout in my backyard was a norm since I could walk. The absence of a puck, skates and ice has always made the concept of field hockey seem alien to me.

A cane and a ball? I was skeptical at best.

But after catching Canada's Olympic squad do battle with the national Under-23 team at UVic on July 19, I got a feel for just how much popularity field hockey has gained on the west coast.

And after hearing the roars of hundreds of fans packing the stands of UVic's field hockey pitch, my phobia of the sport was soon brought to its knees.

Team Canada easily prevailed in the match, totaling a 6-0 victory over the Under-23 crew. Captain Rob Short netted a single goal, as did Ravi Kahlon, Bindi Kullar and Gabbar Singh. Pete Short cashed in a pair of scoring opportunities to give the Olympians the undisputed upper hand.

Team Canada's offense was organized and overpowering, often leaving the Under-23 crew scrambling to regain possession of the ball.

Team Canada's goalie, Matt Mahood, wasn't seriously tested by the Under-23 squad, receiving little action in the first half. But the Vancouver native was impressed by the match.

"Victoria has the best hockey community and playing surface in Canada. Plus, there are a lot of really talented guys out here," said Mahood, one of seven Olympic veterans on this year's team.

Mahood is right about the B.C. talent; he's just one of the 20 athletes on Team Canada's field hockey roster who hail from the province.

Team Canada managed to qualify for this summer's Olympics by narrowly beating Argentina (the sixth-ranked field hockey squad in the world) at the 2007 Pan Am Games in Brazil.

After placing 10th at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, the squad failed to qualify for the 2004 games in Athens.

The July 19 exhibition match was part of Team Canada's pre-Olympic training, which is quickly winding down.

After holding training sessions at UVic, Team Canada traveled to Hong Kong on July 27 to become acclimatized and finalize their training before the 2008 Beijing Olympics commence in China on Aug. 8.

Heading into Beijing as the underdogs will be no easy task, but the canucks have high hopes. And if Team Canada's field hockey squad will be effective in Beijing, younger players need to step up in a big way.

Five of Team Canada's six goals against the Under-23 team were scored by veterans who played in the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

While there's no doubt that Team Canada has the ability to score goals, its offense needs to be better rounded for the squad to be at the top of their game.

"Our goal is to place top-eight this time around," said Mahood, who is known to converse with his goal posts and crossbar during games.

He has even nicknamed his three aluminum pals: Bob, Jim and Frank.

Team Canada is scheduled to play its first game of the 2008 Olympics on Aug. 11, against second-ranked Australia.

The game will be broadcasted by CBC, and for those puckheads who just can't wait for winter to bring another season of ice hockey, cheering on Team Canada during the Olympics just may cure your winter woes.

THE MARTLET

The Martlet is looking for exciting and dynamic people to fill the following positions:

News Editor
Living Editor
Sports Editor
Opinions Editor
Copy Editor
Photo Editor
Graphics Editor
Video Producer
Radio Producer
Production Designer
Photographer
Staff Writer

HOW TO APPLY: Bring your resume, a cover letter stating which position(s) you are applying for, and samples of your work (if applicable) to the Martlet office (SUB B011) or submit by email to maned@martlet.ca by noon, Wednesday, September 10th.

All applicants should apply for Work Study authorization (see the Student Awards and Financial Aid office, located on the second floor of the University Centre building - registrar.uvic.ca/safa/workstudy/workstudyindex.html). All applicants, Work Study eligible or not, will be considered for employment.

Detailed description of jobs at Martlet.ca/jobs

ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY, AUG 7

Aquafit Classes
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Monday and Wednesday
Ian Stewart Complex, Pool
Throughout August, aqua fit classes will be running at Ian Stewart pool.
Fee: Free with VIKES Recreation Membership
Info: Alison Stevens 721.8413

P/Op!
All Day Event
University Centre, B115
The Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery presents an exhibit featuring works by local and internationally renowned artists in the pop, optical and abstract art genres.
P/Op! runs until Sept. 22, 08. Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Fee: Free
Info: Aubrey Emlyn 721-6562

MONDAY, AUG 11

Path to Sustainability: Campus Consultation Session
5 - 7 p.m.
Harry Hickman Building, 116
UVic's Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability wants your ideas to help make our campus a sustainable one. We are in the middle of a year-long process to create the university's first Sustainability Policy and Action Plan.
Please join us for a consultation session to discuss your ideas, find out what is already happening, and help us plan for the future. Your feedback will be incorporated into the sustainability policy and action plan.
Fee: Free
Info:nsdevine@uvic.ca

SUNDAY, AUG 24

SPOKES Bicycle Bursary Program
All Day Event
University Centre, Parkade
The SPOKES program is an innovative bicycle bursary program at the University of Victoria that combines recycling with cycling. Run by volunteers, and supported by UVic organizations, SPOKES has given out more than 350 bikes to university students, faculty and staff.
If you would like to apply for the next fleet - please fill out our APPLICATION FORM and submit it to the SPOKES mailbox located in the UVSS Resource Centre of the SUB or at our storage cage in the parkade below the University Centre Building on campus.
Program Sponsors:
University of Victoria Students' Society. University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society, UVic Sustainability Project, UVic Bicycle User's Committee, University of Victoria, and the UVic Student Alumni Association
Fee: Free
Info: Sarah Webb
250-721-6678
swebb@uvic.ca

THURSDAY, AUG 28

Path to Sustainability: Campus Consultation Session
1 - 3 p.m.
David F. Strong Building, C108
UVic's Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability wants your ideas to help make our campus a sustainable one. We are in the middle of a year-long process to create the university's first Sustainability Policy and Action Plan.
Please join us for a consultation session to discuss your ideas, find out what is already happening, and help us plan for the future. Your feedback will be incorporated into the sustainability policy and action plan.
Fee: Free

LIVE CONCERTS

THURSDAY, AUG 7

Saul, Dating Destiny @ Evolution
9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).
Fee: $8 at the door
$6 in advance

FRIDAY, AUG 8

The Nico Rhodes Quartet @ Hermann's Jazz Club
8 - 11 p.m.
The Nico Rhodes Quartet is from Nanaimo
Nico Rhodes (piano and multi reeds),
James McRae (drums),
Marisha Devoin (base), Joan Wallace (vocals), James Darling (guest pianist).
Tickets can be bought via e-mail at info@hermannsjazz.com. (All Ages).
Fee: $10

Shane Philip, Corwin Fox @ Lucky Bar
10:30 p.m. - 2 a.m., doors at 10 p.m.
Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Ditch Records & Cds, ticketweb.ca.
Both performers are clearly some of the Island's most talented musicians and when they both team up only good things will happen. (No Minors).
Fee: $12 in advance

THURSDAY, AUG 14

Dirtfella, DeviceBox @ Evolution
9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).
Fee: $8 at the door
$6 advance

FRIDAY, AUG 15

Mr. Something Something, Blue Mundae @ Lucky Bar
10 p.m.
Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Ditch Records & Cds, www.ticketweb.ca. (No Minors).
Fee: $12

SATURDAY, AUG 16

The Ecclestons @ Butchart Gardens
7 - 8:30 p.m.
(All Ages).
Fee: Adults $26.50
Youth(13-17) $13.25
5 and under $3.00

THURSDAY, AUG 21

Conversation, A Long Way Home, Callahan @ Evolution
9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).
Fee: $9 at the door
$7 in advance

K-dart, Liz McArthur, Rusty Parts, DJ El Dub @ Gibson Auditorium
8 - 10:30 p.m., doors at 7:30 p.m.
New Victoria based indie label Finaline Recordings is hosting a launch party with performances by, K-dart, Liz McArthur, and Rusty Parts. Tickets available at Lyle's Place, and the Spiral Cafe. (All Ages).
Fee: $12

FRIDAY, AUG 22

LOOT @ Lucky Bar
10 p.m.
Vancouver's best Tool tribute returns to Victoria! Advance tickets are available at Lyle's Place. (No Minors).
Fee: $10 in advance

SATURDAY, AUG 23

Amos Lee, Lucy Wainwright Roche @ Alix Goolden Performance Hall
7 p.m.
Tickets available at the McPherson Box Office (in person, charge by phone 250.386.6121/ Toll Free 1.888.717.6121 or online. (All Ages).
Fee: $22.50

The Ecclestons @ Butchart Gardens
7 - 8:30 p.m.
(All Ages).
Fee: Adults $26.50
Youth(13-17) $13.25
5 and under $3.00

THURSDAY, AUG 28

Archon Legion, Unleash The Archers, FourDefy @ Evolution
9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).
Fee: $9 at the door
$7 in advance

FRIDAY, AUG 29

7th Annual Festival of Noise! Wall Riders, Rusalka, Xdugef, Taskmaster, Pulse Emitter, [View], Brizzbomb, Grandpa Big Balls @ 510 Fort St.
8 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Tickets available at Ditch Records & CDs. (All Ages).
Fee: $15

SATURDAY AUG 30

7th Annual Festival of Noise! Brutophilia, Sick Buildings, Penta Gone, KKrakk!!, Xdugef, Flat Grey, BB Gun, Froghat + Sofaqueen @ 510 Fort St.
3 p.m. - 2 a.m., doors at 2 p.m.
Tickets available at Ditch Records & CDs. (All Ages).
Fee: $15

ON THE TOWN

THURSDAY, AUG 7

Bastion Square Public Market
10:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Bastion Square
This year Bastion Square is alive with street artists, artisans and other vendors seven days a week.
Island Chef Collaborative will also operate their wonderful local fresh produce stall on both Thursdays and Fridays. Market runs until Oct. 26.
Fee: Free
Info: (250) 885-1387

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FRIDAY, AUG 8

The Victoria City Kennel Club Champoinship Dog Show
9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Aug 8 - 10
Saanich Fairground, Stelly's X Road
The Victoria City Kennel Club, established 1888, is holding it's Annual Championship Dog Shows on August 8,9,10th. 2008, at the Saanich Fairground, Stelly's X Road. Also, at this time, the club is celebrating its 120th year.
Those searching for an appropriate breed for their families will find a trip to the show educational and worthwhile.
Lunch is available on site. Come and make a day of it, checking-out the various booths for dog food, equipment and accessories.
Fee: Free

Free B Film Festival
9 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays only
Cameron Bandshell, Beacon Hill Park
Every Saturday (and two Fridays - August 8th and 29) the Victoria Film Festival goes beyond the summer blockbuster to bring YOU another great line-up of B-movies - from the Family-Friendly to the Funky and Fun.
Film Festival Schedule:
Labyrinth - Friday August 8th, (General; 101 min)
Teenagers from Outer Space - Saturday August 9th (General, violence; 86 min)
The Princess Bride - Saturday August 16th (PG; 98 min)
Forbidden Planet - Saturday August 23rd (General; 99 min)
The Goonies (Presented by Monday Magazine) - Friday August 29th (PG - may frighten young children, course language; 114 min)
Bikini Beach - Saturday August 30th (General; 100 min)
Fee: Free
Info: (250) 389-0444

Inner Harbour Night Market
7 - 10 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays only
Ship Point, Inner Harbour
Take some time out to visit the Inner Harbour any Friday or Saturday night this summer. Enjoy fine artisans, live music and street performers.
Market runs until Aug 30.
Fee: Free

SUNDAY, AUG 10

16th Annual Government Street Market
11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., every Sunday until Sept 28
1600 Block of Government Street, between the McPherson Theatre and Chinatown
The Government Street Market is celebrating its 16th year as a vibrant street market, featuring an exciting assortment of arts, crafts, locally designed clothing, imports, food and entertainment.
This market is held every Sunday and some Holiday Mondays.
Fee: Free
Info: Thea Harris (250) 598-2593 theaharris@shaw.ca

FRIDAY, AUG 15

Victoria Dragon Boat Festival
Ship Point and Inner Harbour
Be part of an ancient tradition! Come down to the Inner Harbour for exhilarating dragon boat races, cultural entertainment and crafts for the whole family.
Festival runs from Aug 15 - 17.
Fee: Free
Info: (250) 704-2500

WEDNESDAY, AUG 27

Uncovering the Beauty in Accordion Musician's Request-Based Workshop with internationally renowned accordion virtuoso Mario Pedone
5 - 9 p.m.
Workshop followed by a 1-hour performance.
Fee: $60 ($40 for observers)
Info:IQBrite@shaw.ca or (250) 721-1101.

CLASSIFIEDS

NEED Crisis & Information Line - Interested in Suicide Prevention in the classroom? Reach out to youth in Middle and High schools. Community Education Volunteers needed. Contact Kari at 386.6328 ext 223 or visit website: www.needcrisis.bc.ca Training begins September 15th

4 actors needed (male and female) for short lighthearted play (25 min.) "Dialogue of Gaia and Jehovah" part of outdoor performance with music and readings at the FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY PLACE, AUGUST 16th at 1330 Fairfield Rd. Inexperienced okay - gain experience & exposure. Future performances also possible. Script and further information: 592 9340 (Barbara)

Female student: $100 per night (higher pay if experienced) to help mom with disabled child, just sleeping over night in the guest room. Email Leah at Leahk@shaw.ca

University of Victoria Continuing Studies

Information Session GO!

Business, Management & Technology Programs

Please join us for a free information session which will introduce the

- Certified in Management Professional Designation (CIM)
- Certificate and Diploma Program in Business Administration (CBA/DBA)
  - Evening/Part-time
  - Distance Online
  - Full-time Fast Track Option
  - Aviation Option
- Certificate in Computer Based Information Systems (CBIS)

You will be able to meet Business, Management and Technology staff, as well as instructors and alumni who will be present to answer your questions. Refreshments will be served.

Code: BMAD800
Date: Thursday, August 28: 6 to 8 pm
Location: David Strong Building, Room C122, University of Victoria

Registration for this free event is requested; please phone 250-721-8072 or register online: ***http://bmt.uvic.ca***

Comics

THE SECOND CHAPTER OF THE THRILLING CHECKERPOP "COMIX JAM"
SOMEWHERE OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA_
48 HOURS EARLIER_
you may now kiss the bride!
Hehehe...
I...
Object.
HA! LET ME BE MORE CLEAR. ME AND MY MACHETE OBJECT... MY SON!
Father! I thought you were dead! I saw you die with my own eyes!
And you stabbed me in the back... Son!...
Samantha... Run...
DIE!!
Foolish Child...
WHAT!? THE WHIRLING MACHETE TECHNIQUE?! NO!
YES! AND THIS TIME YOU HAVE NO SHELTER SON!
ITCHING
DESPITE YOUR BETRAYAL AND SLOPPY SKILL, I LOVE YOU SON.
TO BE CONTINUED...
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